

Drive to help mothers at work in 1990s

'Time bomb' of big fall in school leavers

● A campaign is to be mounted to persuade employers to provide child care facilities for working mothers
● A Home Office minister said there was a demographic time-bomb ticking away under Britain's biggest employers
● The move is a government response to figures showing that women will take 80 per cent of new jobs within 10 years
● The move will be aimed at 900,000 mothers keen to return to work, to counter a fall in school-leavers

By Robin Oakley and Roland Rudd

The Government is preparing plans to mount a big publicity drive, similar to its single European market campaign, to force employers to provide child care facilities for working mothers.

The move comes after startling new figures have shown that four in five new jobs will have to be taken by women in less than 10 years.

A dozen ministers who represent the Government's working group on women's issues have been warned to expect the levelling-out of the 1970s baby boom to lead to women taking up no fewer than 80 per cent of new jobs from 1995 onwards.

The so-called demographic

time bomb will mean the supply of school leavers will be sharply reduced, and women workers will be vital to cover the shortfall.

Many will be working wives and mothers with small children and ministers believe that firms facing a labour shortage

clashes Mr Peter Brooke, the Paymaster General from the Treasury, Mr Richard Luce, the Civil Service Minister, Mr Patrick Nicholls, Parliamentary Secretary at the Department of Employment, Mrs Angela Rumbold, Minister of State for Education, and Mrs Edwina Currie, Parliamentary Secretary of the Department of Health.

It has set up a working group of officials to study the provision of better child care for working mothers.

The Government initiative comes after Britain's personnel managers were warned by the National Economic Development Council that they will face severe recruitment problems over the next seven years if they do not take advantage of the "mums' army" of up to 900,000 women keen to return to work.

A new report to be published later this week by the independent Industrial Relations Services says that working mothers are already being offered new forms of child care assistance because more employers realize that it costs less to help working mothers than to recruit new workers.

However, the Working Mothers' Association wants the Government to give working mothers new employment rights to enable them to take a minimum of four months parental leave per child at any time between birth and child's third birthday, in addition to maternity and paternity leave.

With so little public provision, many women have no option but to care for their children full-time for the first five years unless they receive practical help from their employer.

Facilities are also scarce for school-age children, although some local authorities are trying to help by keeping the schools open later. There are few schemes to cope with term time and holidays.

The ministers will meet early in the new year to decide on the next steps. A publicity campaign will be launched.

Continued on page 24, col 7

Greenhouse effect 'only years away'

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

British scientists fear that a fundamental flaw in computer programs used to gauge the impact of the "greenhouse effect" on the Earth's climate may have led to wildly optimistic estimates of the time for preventive action.

They say the climate could undergo catastrophic change in a few years.

An international effort is under way to estimate the consequences of the Greenhouse effect. Climatologists are using the world's most powerful computers to predict the extent of the changes.

The calculations are so complex that scientists have had to simplify equations, hoping errors in their predictions will be acceptable. Ex-

periments in Britain say the programs have ignored "non-linear" aspects of the weather, which could invalidate comforting predictions.

Non-linear systems can undergo catastrophic changes almost instantaneously.

Professor David Rand of Warwick University said laboratory experiments designed to mimic climatic change have clearly demonstrated radical changes over very short time scales.

Professor Rand is to voice his concerns next weekend on the Channel 4 science programme, *Equinox*. "The results of the non-linear effects could be such a disaster that it's something that must be looked into," he said.

Churchgoers back principle of women priests

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Editor

A substantial majority of regular churchgoers in the Church of England support women priests in principle, according to a survey published today conducted by *The Times* by the MORI organization.

But if the figures were reproduced in the next election for the General Synod, due in 1990, the measure would be defeated. To be passed it would require a two-thirds majority in each of the three synod houses.

Its defeat would be because a significant number of the supporters of the ordination of women want no immediate action to authorize it. Discounting abstainers, support for the passage of the draft ordination of

women measure now being considered by the General Synod was 57 per cent, a long way short of the 67 per cent necessary for its approval.

On the principle itself, 58 per cent were "on balance" in favour of women priests, 27 per cent opposed, 10 per cent neither, and 5 per cent did

Spectrum 14

not know. Of those supporting women priests, 76 per cent also supported women bishops, 44 per cent of the whole.

The *Times*/MORI survey is the most detailed account of churchgoers' attitudes on this issue that has been conducted since the controversy began. It will be closely studied by

both sides. Because of the uncertainty of church opinion on many of the issues raised by women's ordination, there has been talk in the standing committee of the General Synod of it commissioning a poll itself.

The survey investigated in depth the reasons for opposing the ordination of women in principle, and found greatest resistance to them celebrating holy communion, and secondly to their solemnizing marriage. It also discovered that 68 per cent had attended a service in which a woman had performed one of the functions of the clergy, and of those, 86 per cent found the experience acceptable.

Many results of the survey will come as a surprise to members of the General Synod, and some results will

alarm the lobbies campaigning against women priests. There is, for example, little support for the arrangements in the draft measure which would allow a bishop opposing women priests to bar them from his diocese, or for a parochial church council to bar them from a parish.

Most strikingly, a majority even among those opposed to women priests was against the parish having the right to bar them; and 42 per cent of those opposed said they would continue to attend their parish church regularly if it had a woman vicar.

There is also little support for "compensation" to be paid to clergy who feel they have to resign, which is proposed in a parallel measure now also before the synod.

Enniskillen defies Remembrance Day massacre



Remembrance Day parade at Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, passing the town's Cenotaph where an IRA bomb killed 11 people last year. Report, page 24.

17 hurt as car ploughs into parade

By Craig Seton

An inquiry was launched last night to find out why a Remembrance Day parade of 100 Scouts, Guides, Brownies and Cubs was marching in the outside lane of a busy dual carriageway when a car ploughed into the column, injuring 13 children and four adults, some seriously.

The West Midlands police disclosed that only one police officer, a community officer using his own motorcycle, was supervising the parade at Great Barr, north Birmingham, when the car came over the brow of a hill in the outside lane at the rear of the parade and crashed into the centre of the column of children.

A senior officer said: "With hindsight, we could probably do it better." Parents of children involved in the march, organized by the local branch of the British Legion, said it should have been supervised by at least two police motorcyclists, as in previous years. Witnesses said children were flung into the air when the Mazda sports car hit them as they marched in uniform.

Continued on page 2, col 4



Mr Gordon Wilson and his wife, who lost a daughter in the attack, at the memorial service. (Photographs: Tim Bishop)

Pressure on Chancellor

Lawson 'stunned officials'

By Our Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Nigel Lawson's commitment to a new scheme to help poorer elderly pensioners came as "a bolt from the blue" to the Department of Social Security which originally put up the idea, it was disclosed last night.

The plan, put to the Treasury during the annual public spending discussions, was taken back by Mr John Moore, the Secretary of State for Social Security, to give the department more time to determine which groups of pensioner it should be aiming specifically to help.

But senior sources were stunned to learn last Sunday afternoon, as the controversy over Mr Lawson's briefing to Sunday newspaper journalists gathered pace, that Mr Lawson appeared to have accepted the plan and was prepared to grant the extra resources to finance it.

"We thought it had gone for a year and then suddenly, bingo, we had got it," *The Times* was told by an informed source last night.

It was the scheme an-

nounced by Mr Lawson to the Commons on Monday and, he claimed, the one he had hinted at in his briefing the previous Friday. That briefing had led to reports that he was planning to cut some benefits to pensioners to target more help on the poor.

As most of the 10 journalists present at the briefing stood by their

Behind means test 15
Letters 17

counts in yesterday's newspapers, Mr Gordon Brown, Labour's chief spokesman on the Treasury, called on the Prime Minister to ask Mr Lawson to make a Commons statement today on his plans for the welfare state.

In his letter he referred to the sudden "unwrapping" of the scheme to help poorer pensioners, the fact that Independent Television News had last Saturday night carried a report highlighting an expected benefits shake-up which it had obtained and checked independently of the

Lawson briefing, which it did not attend, and the unanimity of the reports in yesterday's newspapers from the journalists who did attend.

Referring to reports of the surprise in the Department of Social Security about the revival of the scheme to help pensioners, he wrote: "This gives rise to the serious question about whether what emerged was a cynical attempt to misrepresent the record of what the Chancellor truly said to the lobby and about which the journalists are unanimous."

He called for "straight answers to straight questions." Mr Lawson's difficulties over the affair have given rise to speculation among some Conservative MPs and ministers that he will give up the Chancellorship and take a job in the City before the next Budget.

But this is discounted by Treasury sources who point out that Mr Lawson has already started work on the Budget and has no intention of going.

Thatcher will press Bush on Nato summit

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

An early summit meeting of Nato leaders to discuss the next stage of development in East-West relations is to be backed by the Prime Minister this week when she meets Mr George Bush, the President-elect, in Washington.

Mrs Thatcher is likely to propose that the meeting should take place in London, possibly in June, to prepare for Mr Bush's first summit with President Gorbachev.

When Mrs Thatcher sees Mr Bush on Thursday, she will emphasize the importance of the West keeping up the momentum on arms control.

But she will also acknowledge the need for careful preparations, including the Nato meeting, for the next superpower summit. Although keen to encourage further reform in the Soviet Union Mrs Thatcher believes in the need for caution in the West's response to Mr Gorbachev's overtures.

She is expected to emphasize the need for Nato to press ahead with plans to modernize short-range nuclear weapons. The talks are also likely to cover the Middle East and the

world economy, with Mrs Thatcher suggesting prompt action to tackle the United States budget deficit.

Mrs Thatcher will also meet Mr James Baker, who is to become Secretary of State.

The other purpose of the Prime Minister's brief visit to Washington is to say farewell to President Reagan, with whom she has enjoyed the warmest of personal relations.

Pentagon shake-up 10

ships. There will be a banquet at the White House on Wednesday.

Mrs Thatcher is expected to face opposition from Irish-American politicians on the Government's proposals on the right to silence and the broadcasting ban on IRA and Sinn Féin members.

Father Sean McManus of the Irish National Caucus said in New York at the weekend: "The British Government has been stupid, extremely silly. The one thing that Americans cannot understand is oppressive law." Members of Congress were angered by the laws and were expected to raise the issue in the new session.

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With three weekly prize winners (see Page 3), Portfolio Accumulator rises to £8,000 today.
Prices: Page 32

IN PART 2

Dollar to face new pressure

The dollar is expected to come under heavy pressure on the foreign exchange markets this morning despite denials by the Reagan administration and spokesmen for Mr George Bush that the new administration wanted to see the currency fall as part of its policy to cure America's twin trade and budget deficits. Mr Bush, they said, saw the economy as his top priority.

O A new survey from the CBI
gives the first clear evidence that higher mortgage rates have ended the high street sales boom. Page 25

Leak disputed

Lazard Freres, the American investment bank, is to dispute an allegation in the US that one of its directors inadvertently leaked that Minors was likely to bid for Consolidated Gold Fields. Page 25

Lyle threat

Sandy Lyle, the British golfer, has had to change his mind about not playing in a tournament in Australia after a threat by its sponsor to sue him. Page 46

Hadlee record

Richard Hadlee of New Zealand became the leading Test wicket-taker in India at the weekend. Pages 41, 46

INDEX

Home News	2-5, 7, 8
Overseas	9-12
Business	25-32
Sport	41-46
Arts	18
Births, marriages, deaths	21
City Diary	27
Court	22-24
Crosswords	16
Diary	39
Education	22
Entertainment	14-16
Features	22
Information	23
Law Report	17
Leading articles	17
Letters	20
Nature notes	20
Obituary	16
On This Day	20
Religion	20
Siergomy	34-35
Technology	23
Tv & Radio	24
Weather	24

Homes evacuated over bomb find

Hundreds of people left their homes when four blocks of flats were evacuated in east London last night after workmen dug up a 500lb Second World War bomb. The Docklands Light Railway was closed.

Army bomb disposal experts who inspected the German bomb last night said it might take up to 36 hours to defuse the device. The railway was expected to remain closed at least until Tuesday morning. Roads near Aspen Way, Poplar, have also been closed.

Scotland Yard said residents had been moved into temporary accommodation provided by the Tower Hamlets social services department. A larger area was expected to be evacuated today when the defusing begins. Traffic congestion is likely.

Alert halts oil drilling

Three North Sea oil platforms have suspended drilling because of fears that equipment designed to prevent explosions may be unreliable. The Department of Energy issued safety alerts to Ultramar, BP Lismo and Shell on Saturday which operate rigs using equipment similar to that on the stricken Ocean Odyssey platform which exploded two months ago killing one man. The equipment incorporates flexible hoses designed for extremely high pressures but which are thought to be "suspect" after investigation work on Ocean Odyssey.

Fewer babies dying

Infant mortality in England and Wales is at the lowest level yet, according to figures from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. Fewer new-born babies and infants up to a year old died in 1987 than the previous year. Experts had feared the downward trend in mortality rates was over. However, figures for perinatal mortality - stillbirths and death in the first week of a baby's life - are relatively high in the West Midlands and infant mortality has not declined in the North East and South East Thames areas.

Satellite TV pay card

Amstrad, the consumer electronics company, has invented a "smart card" system to enable subscribers to satellite television channels to pay for programmes electronically. The cards, a little larger than credit cards, will be able to tally how much is being spent, and when. The system is being considered by Sky TV, the satellite television service to be launched early next year by Mr Rupert Murdoch. If adopted, the smart card would give viewers access to the Sky Movie channel which, unlike the other three Sky channels, will be available by subscription only.

Yacht fire inquiry

A British yachtsman will be questioned by Gibraltar police today about a fire which destroyed his boat and may have killed four people on board. Essex police yesterday launched its own inquiry into the fire after allegations by the yacht's skipper and owner, Mr David Berrisford, from Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex, that the four had hijacked his vessel. Mr Berrisford, aged 54, escaped in a dinghy from the blazing 38-foot Atherina, which sank on Saturday 69 miles west of the Portuguese port of Aveiro. He was picked up by another yacht which was expected in Gibraltar today.

Bedsits fire kills two

Two people died and three others were in a serious condition last night after fire gutted a three-storey block of bedsits in Stoke Newington, north London, early yesterday. A man held for questioning was released after police and fire investigators ruled out arson, Scotland Yard said.

King stops details being given to IRA 'shoot-to-kill' inquest

Anti-terror moves to stay secret

By Jamie Dettmer, Irish Affairs Correspondent

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, has stopped details about anti-terrorist operations from being given at an inquest into the deaths of three IRA men at the centre of shoot-to-kill allegations.

Mr King signed a Public Interest Immunity Certificate last week but news of it emerged only yesterday.

It states it would not be in the public interest for certain intelligence details about the operation when they were shot by the Royal Ulster Constabulary to come out in open court.

A similar certificate was issued for the Gibraltar hearing into the SAS shootings of three IRA members.

The families of the men fear the certificate will prevent the hearing from looking at disputed evidence about the killings.

That came to light during Mr John Stalker's inquiry into the shoot-to-kill allegations and was contained in the former Manchester deputy chief constable's book, written after he left the force.

Three members of Mr Stalker's team, which investigated

the deaths of six men shot in three separate incidents by the RUC in 1982, are to return to Northern Ireland to testify at the first of the inquests into the killings, which begins today.

The hearing is expected to renew the debate over whether there was a shoot-to-kill policy in Ulster, and will be closely monitored by the Irish government.

The first of the inquests opens at Craigavon, Co Armagh, on Gervais McKerr, Eugene Toman and Sean Burns who were shot by the

elite Headquarters Mobile Support Unit during a car chase near Lurgan. All three were known IRA members.

The hearing is likely to take up to three months and inquests into the shootings of three other men will follow.

Mr Stalker turned down a request from the families of the IRA men to appear at the inquest.

He said all his papers had been taken from him and there was no sense in his going into the witness box.

More than 30 witnesses, most from the RUC, will be

called to testify. They will include Mr Trevor Forbes, assistant chief constable and former head of the Special Branch in the province.

But the three officers who were acquitted in 1984 of murdering Eugene Toman will not be testifying.

● The IRA is undertaking an internal security review of its Belfast and Londonderry brigades after 10 days of arms raids and arrests by the Royal Ulster Constabulary, according to republican sources.

It believes that informers may be to blame.

Poll curb on Ulster gunmen

By Jamie Dettmer, Irish Affairs Correspondent

The Government is preparing a further anti-terrorist measure which will prevent convicted gunmen from standing for local office for five years after being released from prison.

The restriction will be enacted in time for Northern Ireland's local elections in May. It will be included in next week's Queen Speech, which will also outline plans to require all councillors in Northern Ireland to sign a declaration renouncing the use of violence before taking their seats.

Present legislation allows terrorists to stand for election to political office five years after the date of their conviction.

Unionist politicians have complained that means a convicted terrorist can be elected to a council almost immediately on leaving prison.

Meanwhile, the North Down constituency Conservative party, whose application to join the Conservative Party was rejected last week, is to put up candidates at next year's local polls and may contest the European Parliament elections.

Another five Conservative associations are being formed in the province. The North Down party is to re-apply for affiliation to the national party in March.

17 hurt as car ploughs through parade



The Mazda sports car involved in the crash yesterday in which 17 people in a Remembrance Day parade were injured.

Continued from page 1 with banners along the main Birmingham Road, which has a 40 mph speed limit, to St Margaret's Church for a Remembrance Day service.

A fleet of 12 ambulances ferried the injured to four hospitals in the West Midlands. Ten children were still detained last night.

The police said Andrew Bayliss, aged 9, of Walsall, who is in Sandwell District Hospital with head injuries, and Andrew Aulton, aged 8, who is in the major accident unit at Birmingham Children's Hospital, were in a poor condition.

The car driver, a local man, aged 25, was arrested and taken to a police station but

then transferred to a local hospital suffering from shock. The police said a breathalyser test on him at the scene had proved negative.

Mr Trevor Clarke, county commissioner for the Scout Association, said: "There will be an official inquiry. We have to assess the facts. We do have guidelines for these parades and I am perfectly satisfied they were followed. I am devastated, but I do not think 50 policemen could have prevented this accident."

The West Midlands police said PC Roger Penniket, who had marshalled the annual parade for 19 years, had been supervising the rear of the column. However, he had

moved to the front to direct traffic at a junction when the accident happened shortly after 10.30am.

Witnesses said the car hit the outside kerb of the dual carriage, rebounded into the nearby kerb and crash barrier and was flung sideways into the column of children.

The police said it would review procedures for marshalling parades on public roads. Chief Supt Keith Pemberton, head of West Bromwich police, said last night: "Witnesses said the youngsters went down like nine pins and that there was absolute mayhem."

He said the parade had moved into the outside lane immediately it joined the Bir-

mingham road from a side road because it needed to make a right turn 400 yards further on. PC Penniket had supervised the rear of the column until it crossed a flyover over the M6. He had then moved to the front to direct traffic. Two adult Scout leaders had been left at the rear.

Chief Supt Pemberton said: "This parade has taken place over the same route and marshalled by the same policeman for 19 years and there has never been an incident before. We do appreciate there has been a tremendous tragedy and we will examine our procedures and take appropriate action. Perhaps with hindsight, we could probably do it better."

Labour to resist policy changes

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Labour leaders will this week rule out any panic changes of policy to counter the nationalist threat to its fortunes in Scotland after the spectacular Scottish National Party success in the Govan by-election.

The Shadow Cabinet, meeting for a two-day conference at Rottingdean, East Sussex, is to draw up plans for a fresh assault on the Government over the economy and campaigns to win the green vote and attract women voters.

Party leaders will hold their first collective discussion of the implications of the Govan defeat. It is expected broadly to support the advice of Mr Donald Dewar, the shadow Secretary of State for Scotland, and Mr Neil Kinnock, the party leader, who have spoken out against sudden changes to Labour's stance against illegal action on the poll tax.

The formal inquest into the Govan defeat will be conducted by the national executive later.

A solution likely to be adopted for crucial by-elections will be for the executive to draw up shortlists of two or three candidates it regards as suitable, and for the local party to make the choice.

The overall theme of the shadow cabinet talks will be to draw up campaigns to highlight the effects of government policies on the quality of life.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, will propose a new onslaught against Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor.

● Growing interest within the Labour party in changing Britain's electoral system is reflected in a Fabian pamphlet published today which sets out how Labour has "lost" seven million votes since the 1950s. *Labour Can Still Win* calls for the introduction of the Alternative Vote System which would allow voters the chance to express second and third preferences where no candidate won more than 50 per cent of the vote.

The author, Martin Linton, traces a series of reasons for the disappearance of some seven million votes for Labour since the 1951 election.

Snow fades for seen six da

Urgent look at

NUS sets up loan inquiries 'hotline'

Does vote on

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سكرا من الاموال

Shoe found as hope fades for girl last seen six days ago

By Ronald Faux

Hopes of finding Anna Humphries, the missing Shropshire girl, unharmed were fading last night after police identified a shoe found beside the Shrewsbury to Bridgnorth road as belonging to the girl who disappeared six days ago.

Det Chief Supt Gareth Jones, leading the search in which 400 police, volunteers and military personnel took part yesterday, said that police were anxious to trace the shoe's partner or any other item of school clothing worn by the girl on Tuesday. She was last seen then walking home from school in Penley, two miles from her home.

He said: "It is highly unlikely in my opinion that the girl will be found alive now."

The search was intensified using dogs in woodland near Hanley Bank, Much Wenlock, where the black shoe was found on a roadside verge. Other teams of searchers concentrated on a three-mile stretch of countryside around Ellesmere Lane, Penley, where Anna, aged 15, was last seen.

The nationwide hunt for David Evans, aged 31, the farmworker from the village of Bettisfield near by continued yesterday.

Police want to interview him in connection with Anna's disappearance. His description has been issued to ports and police stations throughout Britain and the Irish Republic.

Police believe Mr Evans was given a lift by a lorry driver at 5 am on Wednesday. He was taken five miles from Hammer to Whitcomb, where he withdrew £200 from a bank cash dispenser. It is

known that he had clothing in a holdall and his passport with him when he left his home.

Police have had reports of a man answering Mr Evans's description travelling by train from Whitcomb to Crewe early the same morning, but detectives also think his appearance may have changed since the picture they circulated was taken.

Mr Jones added: "He had his hair layered to a length of approximately one and a half inches, shorter than shown in the photograph, but he still has long sideboards down to the lobes of his ears. The hair is brushed slightly forward and no longer has any parting."

Asked if the case was now being treated as a murder inquiry, he said: "We have got to consider that there could be a sinister implication because we are already into the fifth day of searching."

Mr Evans's green Allegro saloon, similar to a car seen near the place where Anna disappeared, has been examined by police specialists.

North Wales police said yesterday: "We are now five days into the inquiry. Clearly the longer the time goes on the more unlikely it is that we will find Anna alive."

A police spokesman said that the shoe thought to belong to Anna may have been thrown from a car and he appealed to anyone who saw any person or vehicle acting suspiciously in the area to get in touch with the incident room in Penley.

The shoe was found 30 miles from where Anna disappeared. It was found by a farm labourer on the A548

Shrewsbury to Bridgnorth road at Harley Bank, Much Wenlock, Shropshire, and was being examined by experts.

Mr Jones said: "Her mother says she had similar shoes, and her younger sister says definitely it was that type of shoe, because she used to wear Anna's shoes."

Anna's parents, Trevor and Rosemary Humphries, and her brother, David, aged 17, yesterday went with friends and relatives to a special service in St Mary Magdalene Church, Penley.

Prayers were said for a safe outcome to Anna's disappearance.

Mr David Bell, a local lay preacher, said Anna was missing not through any fault of her own or her family's but because of the evil in society today.

"Sometimes it takes a catastrophe to make us rise against Satan", he said.

Anna's sister, Moira, aged 10, who was not at the service, said a school friend had identified the shoe, sold by Freeman Hardy and Willis, as the type worn by the missing girl.

After the service most of the congregation filed quietly out of the church, while Mrs Humphries walked forward alone to the altar and knelt in silent prayer.

Police officers guarded the church gates as the family stepped into a waiting car and were driven back to their home two and a half miles away, to resume their painful vigil.

In an emotional service, the congregation sang "Morning Has Broken" and "Oh God Our Help In Ages Past".

Mud fishermen yield to nuclear power



Mr Brendan Sellick propelling his mudhorse across mudflats at Bridgwater Bay, Somerset, near the Hinkley Point nuclear power station, in the continuation of a family tradition that goes back at least three generations. Only two families retain the skill to guide the primitive sled more than a

mile across the mud at low tide to shrimp nets (Pearce Wright writes). The decline of this remarkable fishing method coincided with the opening of the first of the two nuclear power stations that dominate the bay from Hinkley Point. A third is the subject of a public inquiry in progress at Canning-

ton, a village halfway between the bay and Bridgwater. The stations gulp in millions of gallons of cooling water that is returned a few degrees warmer to the sea. Mr Sellick has no rooted objection to nuclear power. However, he maintains that the huge water intakes are responsible for changes in

the estuary that have led to a steady decline in shrimps and fishlife. While no research has been carried out, Mr Sellick believes eggs and larvae in the spawning season are killed when they are sucked into conditions caused by the torrent of cooling water.

(Photograph: Nick Rogers)

Inquiry over 'missing body'

By Tony Dawe

Reports of a "missing body" from the King's Cross fire started a dispute last night after a coroner ordered a fresh police inquiry.

Some officials who investigated the disaster which claimed 31 lives said the extra "body" was "a pile of plastic" which would subsequently have been destroyed.

Even the doctor who

discovered "the body" said the inquiry would only reopen wounds.

The "missing body" was reported to Dr Douglas Chambers, the coroner who conducted the inquest on the victims, by Mr Ron Farrow-Smith, general manager of London Underground.

The "body" was found close to the burnt-out booking hall

by Dr Peter Ernst from Ilford, Essex, who attended the fire. Part of a skull and a foot were found near by and the remains taken to a mortuary. But only one of the 31 bodies recovered at the mortuary was dismembered and had lost a foot, which was later recovered.

Dr Chambers said he would only believe in the body when he saw it.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

A second Portfolio win for exporter Mr Timothy Connolly will more than offset the losses he incurred the first time he won *The Times* competition: last year, he invested his £1,000 winnings in BP shares just before the stock market crash.

This time, Mr Connolly, of Burdon Lane, Cheam, Surrey, will put most of his

share of Saturday's £8,000 prize into Premium Bonds. "The remainder will come in more than useful for all the pre-Christmas spending", he said yesterday.

Mr Gerald Carey, of Pennington, Lymington, Hampshire, and Mr Frank Mason, of Burnside Road, Whiteley Bay, Tyne and Wear, each received £2,666.

Legal Aid Board

Urgent look at joint actions

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Lord Chancellor has asked the new Legal Aid Board to look at a priority at ways that disaster victims or people harmed by drugs can bring joint actions under the legal aid scheme.

In a letter to Mr John Pinn, chairman of the board, Lord Mackay of Clashfern says the Government wants to "establish new procedures" by which actions "raising 'common problems' might be more effectively handled under the legal aid scheme."

One way of achieving that, he says, "would be for the board to enter into contracts with a particular firm or firms of solicitors to provide representation in particular groups of cases."

The board should consider how those arrangements might work in multi-party actions in which there are particular issues common to all the cases involved and no likelihood of a conflict of interest.

The issue is one of a list of priorities that the Lord Chancellor has drawn up for the board, which takes over the running of the £200 million a

year scheme on April 1. The Lord Chancellor makes clear that the aim is to hold the proportion of the population eligible for legal aid at present levels and not increase it.

There have been criticisms that the proportion has dropped in recent years from more than 70 per cent to about 50 per cent.

Mr Pitts told *The Times* that a working party had been set up to look at possible new procedures for multi-party actions. It would report to the Lord Chancellor before the board assumed its statutory responsibilities.

In addition, the board planned to issue a consultation paper before Christmas on the issue of "contracting out" legal advice work now done by solicitors.

Mr Pitts said the work now done by the 1,450 legal aid staff could be done with fewer people. But the board had been asked to look at taking on new work, such as handling criminal legal aid applications and also assessment for eligibility.

© Mr Allan Green, QC, Director of Public Prosecutions,

swiftly rebutted criticisms yesterday that the Crown Prosecution Service was increasingly failing in its task of securing convictions against defendants at crown court trials.

Sunday newspaper reports suggested that since the service was formed with the specific task of preventing weak cases being brought to trial, the percentage of acquittals at crown courts has steadily increased and was now more than 50 per cent.

But Mr Green said that a quite different conclusion could be drawn from the statistics. "It is obvious that if a higher proportion of people plead guilty then the contested cases will be those that come closer to the border-line and you may well find a higher degree of acquittals."

Last night, a chief crown prosecutor supported his view. "Most chief crown prosecutors have little doubt that the position has improved quite substantially, and that the number of cases being lost because they should never have been brought in the first place is very few."

NUS sets up loan inquiries 'hotline'

By Douglas Brown, Education Reporter

The National Union of Students is setting up a "hotline" today to deal with inquiries from students and parents worried about government plans to introduce a system of student loans.

A spokesman said the union had received a flood of calls since the plan for loans to top-up the student grant was unveiled in a White Paper last Wednesday.

Under the scheme, students would be able to borrow up to £400 a term during their undergraduate studies. The interest-free loans, underwritten by the Treasury, could be repaid over 10 years.

Ministers have emphasized that the loans would be in addition to the grant which would be frozen at its current

level when a loans scheme was introduced.

But the union claims that the removal of housing benefit and a student's right to unemployment benefit during summer vacations would leave students up to £1,600 a year worse off than under the present system.

A union spokesman said yesterday: "Many of the calls received have only been for clarification of what is being proposed. But a high level of concern has been raised about the effects on parental contributions and the loss of entitlement to welfare benefits."

The hotline number, which opens this morning, is 01-272 8902.

Letters, page 17

BBC will disclose guidelines

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

The BBC proposes to disclose internal policy advice on all aspects of programme making and sensitive broadcasting issues for the first time in its 61-year history.

The latest example of public accountability will be disclosed in the new year, when corporation chiefs publish 10,000 copies of BBC producer guidelines for viewers and listeners. They cover everything from reporting of crime and terrorism to fairness and impartiality and violence on television.

The guidelines, which come under 23 different headings and have undergone detailed revision in the past 12 months, include chapters on "straight dealing"

Dons vote on common room clash

By Our Education Reporter

Academics at the University of Limerick will meet this week to investigate allegations that a clash of ideas in the senior common room led to a fist fight between two dons.

The full membership of the senior common room at the university's central Coláiste campus, numbering more than 300, has been summoned to attend an extraordinary general meeting on Thursday.

The dons will hear an appeal by Mr Andrew Waterman, a senior English lecturer and published poet, against his expulsion from the senior common room for allegedly attacking Professor Brian

Manning, dean of humanities, during a late-night discussion at the bar on September 29.

It is alleged that Mr Waterman, aged 48, described the Daniel Defoe novel, *Moll Flanders*, as "boring". Each man has blamed the other for starting the fight, which left Professor Manning, a specialist on seventeenth and eighteenth century history, with three stitches in a face wound. The professor, who is on extended study leave, is expected to attend the meeting.

Mr Waterman said yesterday he had hit out in self defence. However, he said: "I am not very optimistic. It is not

every day that someone floors the dean of humanities." He admitted he had described Defoe's novel as boring. He said: "I did say it was boring and it is. The woman counts her money on every page."

Mr Waterman, who has lectured at Coláiste since 1968, said he did not believe the incident would affect his academic career. The senior common room is run as a private club which leases its premises from the university. "There have been other incidents of huffnuffs in the senior common room, not, I must insist to add, involving me", he said.



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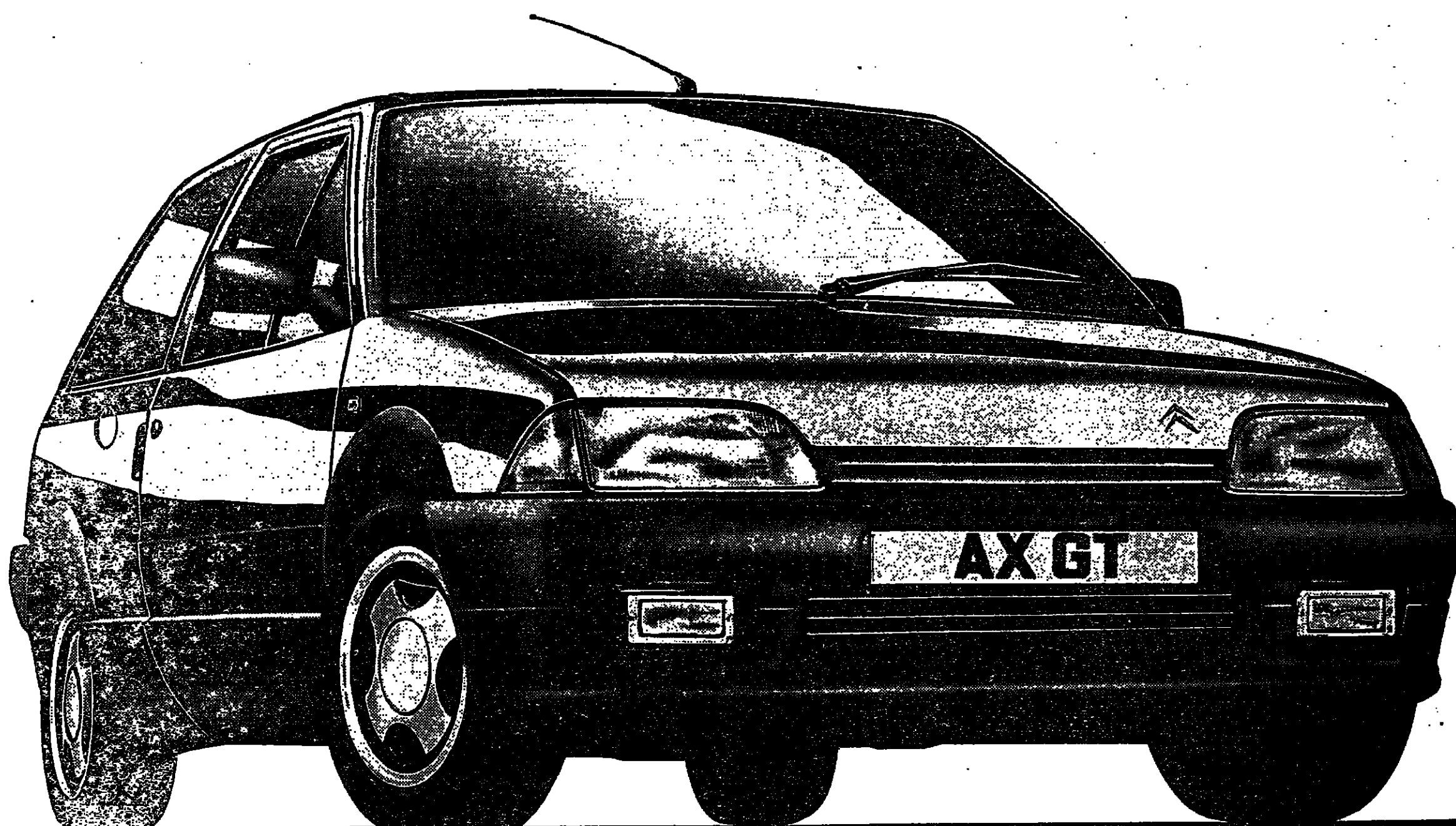
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Prince Charles
with a son

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Extensions and Int.

The Department plans to consider more than 50 ways to relieve pressure on M1, M16, M23 and the Channel Tunnel, according to a 1993, according to an answer in Parliament. Peter Bottomley, responsible for traffic

The extension between Ashford stone, and the three lanes of the bypass will exceed one third of the The department the first contract

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PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAYNE FINCHER



Prince Charles at 40: stoic with a social conscience

By Alan Hamilton

The Prince of Wales today achieves his fortieth birthday, that arbitrary milestone in a man's life marking the divide between old age of youth and the youth of old age.

Many who reach it profess, unconvincedly, to ignore it; the Prince is denied any such luxury, however much he might wish the opening of his fifth decade to pass unremarked.

These official birthday portraits were taken at Highgrove, the Prince's Gloucestershire home, by Jayne Fincher, twice winner of the annual Martin Royal photographic awards and daughter of a distinguished Fleet Street news cameraman. Invited to her first big royal photocall, she found the Prince "very relaxed and charming, a real gentleman".

She has captured the Prince in the window of his Highgrove sitting room, gazing into the garden which is one of the joys of his life, accompanied by Tigger, his faithful Jack Russell terrier which rarely allows the Prince to attend polo matches unaccompanied.

The Princess of Wales poses with their children, Prince William and Prince Henry, on a stone patio at the back of the

house rich with the scent of lavender and roses.

Bernard Shaw thought every man over the age of 40 a scoundrel, and Sir Arthur Pinero, the dramatist, observed that from 40 to 50 a man is either a stoic or a satyr. No scoundrel or satyr, the twenty-first Prince of Wales is certainly a stoic against the determined efforts of much of the media to trivialize a man who fills his long wait for the throne with an exceptionally active social conscience.

His stoicism will have been tested in recent days by the flood of personal insights claimed by writers jumping on his birthday bandwagon. He hates few things more than speculation about his private life, particularly his marriage. Little wonder he declined to give any birthday interviews.

Today he travels to Birmingham to spend part of his birthday in a deprived inner city, where many of the young people of Handsworth to whom he has given hope and impetus through the Prince's Trust will reward him with a party in a converted tramcar depot.

It was Bob Geldof, one of his heroes,

noting the Prince's concern for those at the opposite end of fortune's scale in his future kingdom, who observed how strange it was that royalty had become Everyman.

He is criticized by the architectural establishment, but has struck a chord with a great many, particularly after his polished television performance two weeks ago.

His call for a return to classical building is merely a call for the return of the world to a human scale. He seeks, and preaches, a spiritual dimension to life in a world increasingly obsessed by technology and base pursuit of money.

He sometimes despairs at media obsession with his wife's clothes and the personal side of their joint lives; he feels it obscures and hinders the man and his message.

At 40 the Prince will have many years yet to wait to assume the position to which he was born. He is putting his wait to good use, if only because he knows that as King Charles III he will not enjoy such freedom. He should be welcomed today into his maturity.



Second house invaders

Village calls talks on starter homes

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

The village of Orford in Suffolk is at the end of a road that goes nowhere, perched on a hill between ancient pine forests and the flat North Sea marshes.

It has a castle built by Henry II, a fourteenth century church, several admirable public houses, and a brave and belligerent history.

But neither its remoteness and seclusion, nor its one-time role as a fortress built to repel invaders, has protected it from the late twentieth century invasion by wealthy middle-class urbanites in search of second homes.

Of its 378 houses, cottages and flats, more than 70 are owned or rented by weekenders, many attracted by the

excellent sailing. Their money, while benefiting the village's economy, has pushed house prices beyond the reach of local people.

Today Orford will play host to a delegation from the Country Landowners Association as part of a campaign to highlight the need for measures to enable young people on modest incomes to continue living in the villages where they were born and bred.

The issue has united the association, the Rural Development Commission, the National Farmers' Union, and the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

Under the aegis of the National Agricultural Centre,

at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire, a network of rural housing associations has been formed to buy land from willing farmers at below-market cost to build starter homes.

The present crisis has been intensified by the Government's "right to buy" legislation which has meant that in Orford, for example, more than half the local authority's stock of 80 houses has been sold to tenants.

On the open market a terrace cottage was recently sold for about £60,000, and houses in new private developments are fetching up to £150,000. In the past six months, three newly-married couples have moved elsewhere. "It was not until we

held a public meeting last July that we realized how big the problem was", Mr Trevor Archbold, chairman of Orford and Gedgrave parish council, said.

The council approached the Suffolk Rural Housing Association and the NAC Rural Trust, and ironically enlisted the support of two weekenders, a merchant banker and a solicitor.

After environmental objections to the choice of a site below the castle, the local housing association has earmarked land on the edge of the village, where it hopes to build six houses for rent, and a further 12 for sale.

The planning application is to be heard later this month.

Moore bronze sells at £1.1m

Prices for Edvard Munch, Henry Moore and René Magritte all achieved new records at Sotheby's, New York, over the weekend, rising to \$3.3 million (£1.8 million) £1.1 million and £611,000 respectively.

But although the three-day spending spree on Impressionist, Modern and contemporary art yielded \$231 million (£128.5 million), many categories refused to make the quantum leaps to which we have recently become accustomed.

The record-breaking Munch painting was "Girls on the Jetty", a view of the jetty at his home in Asgaardstrand, Norway, and demonstrating none of the angst for which he is famous. One of 12 on the same subject, it is a mou-

mentally-composed work. Henry Moore's "Reclining Figure" - a 92-inch bronze nude dated 1962, life-like in respect of its hands, its head an abstract hammer-shape, overtook its upper estimate by £277,000. As one of an edition of nine, there must be eight other gratified owners.

Last in the trio is Magritte's "Chant de la Vierge" - a Surrealist painting of two bowler-hatted men coloured grey to resemble stone, and carrying boulders of the same colour. This doubled its estimate.

The Impressionists failed to achieve the same kind of records. At £4.7 million, Renoir's "Baigneuse", a soft-coloured oil painting of a pretty woman drying her feet after dipping them in a stream, fell short of his previous record, while "An Printemps ou la Conversation", another Renoir oil, of lovers conversing at a garden gate, sold just within its lower estimate, at £2.6 million. Edgar Degas's "Le Baiser du Rideau" barely squeezed past its lower estimate at £4.4 million and Van Gogh's "Le Moissonneur" also sold on its lower estimate, at £1.4 million, to a European private collector.

This is a sobering price in the light of the artist's recent prowess in the auction room.

Employers support TA drive

By Michael Evans

Defence Correspondent

British Steel, British Coal and United Biscuits are three of the big companies that have pledged to support the Government's new campaign to improve the image of the Territorial Army.

Mr Tommy Macpherson, chairman of the National Employers' Liaison Committee, wrote to 650 employers in September. So far nearly 300 have replied.

Mr Macpherson told employers that 18 per cent of officers and 33 per cent of non-commissioned ranks left the reserves each year.

Motorway repairs

Extensions and improvements to ease M-ways pressure

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

The Department of Transport plans to construct or improve more than 60 miles of motorway to relieve pressure on the M1, M6, M25 and M20, when the Channel tunnel opens in 1993, according to a written answer in Parliament by Mr Peter Bottomley, minister responsible for roads and traffic.

The extension of the M20 between Ashford and Maidstone, and the widening to three lanes of the Maidstone bypass will account for about one third of the programme. The department plans to place the first contract for the M20

before the end of the year, with the second in the spring. A further 25 miles will be added to the A446(M) north of Birmingham to provide relief for the M6.

Mr Bottomley also pointed out that the extension of the M40 from Oxford to Birmingham would take pressure off the M1, and the construction of the Dartford bridge would ease the flow on the M25.

Main roadworks this week:

South-east
M25 Surrey: contraflow jns 11-13 (Cherisey/Staines); lane restrictions jns 12 (M3).
M1 Hertfordshire: only north-

bound exit slip open at jns 8 (Hemel Hempstead).
M1 Northamptonshire: lane closures at jns 15 (Northampton).
M20 Kent: lane restrictions jns 11-12 (Hythe/Cheriton).
M40 Buckinghamshire: occasional lane closures jns 1-4 (A40/A404); contraflow jns 6-7 (Waddington/Thame).

Midlands

M5 Hereford/Worcestershire: contraflow jns 4-4a (Bromsgrove/M42); slow moving heavy loads on Sunday jns 1-11.

M50 Hereford/Worcestershire: contraflow westbound jns 1-2 (Tewkesbury/A417).

North

M63 Greater Manchester:

contraflow, slip road closures, jns 1-6 (M62/A6144).
M62 Greater Manchester: contraflow west bound jns 21-22 (A640/A672).
M62 West Yorkshire: contraflow jns 24-25 (Huddersfield/A644).
M180 Humberside: roadworks jns 1-3 (A18/Scunthorpe).

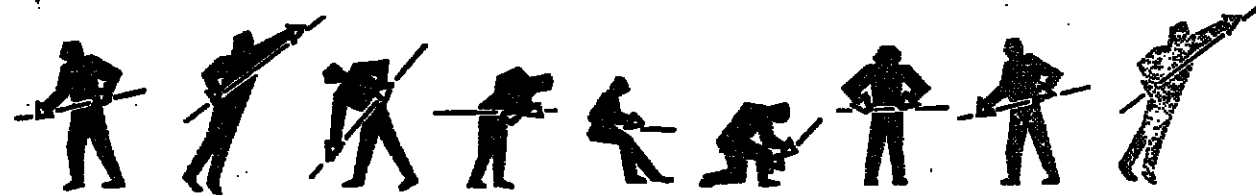
Scotland

M9 Lothian: lane closures jns 1 (Admiralty flyover).
M74 Strathclyde: lane closures jns 7-12 (Larkhall/Douglas Road).

M8 Strathclyde: west bound slip closed jns 14 (Glasgow).
M85 Tayside: contraflow on Friarton bridge.

Information compiled and supplied by AA Roadwatch

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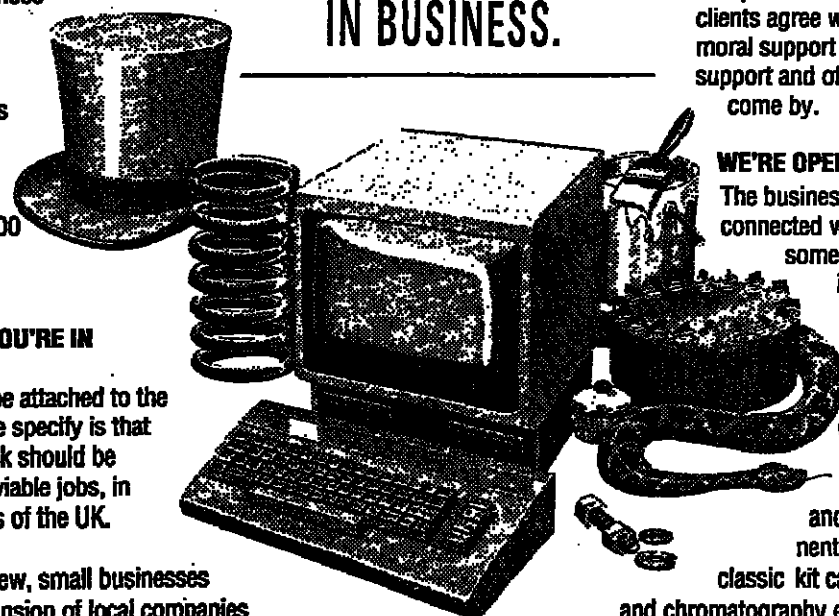
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**Channel 5
may have
a cold war**

The Chairman said that the members of the committee would be asked to agree to a resolution on the subject of the day after tomorrow. He said that the committee would be asked to agree to a resolution on the subject of the day after tomorrow. He said that the committee would be asked to agree to a resolution on the subject of the day after tomorrow.

WHITEHALL BRIEF
by David Walker

**Taking steps into
brave new world**

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BA pays loyalty bonus to keep computer staff

By Roland
A loyalty bonus
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A report published by the Department of Transport last week says that the first of its kind was offered in an attempt to reduce staff turnover.

European airlines are positioning their headquarters staff training as a highly technical activity, rising up to twice the level of the flight deck.

As a result, staff are being pumped from flight training into the three categories of:

- Cabin crew
- Cabin crew
- Cabin crew

It takes two years to train a cabin crew member around the world, and the cost of training is about £10,000.

Since 1983 BA has spent £100 million on computer systems, and the scales from 1983 to 1988.

As a result, the company has jumped from 14th place in the three months ending 1988, to 11th place in the three months ending 1989.

It takes two years to build a new round TPF and the average salary is about £16,000.

Since 1983 24 new round TPFs have been built, on scales from 600 to 1,200 computer stations.

It takes two years to round £20,000 in TPF and the salary is about £16,000. Since 1983 24,000 computer scales from 60

Since 1983 24,000 computer scales from 600

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Channel swimmers may have to pass a cold water test

By David Cross

The Channel Swimming Association is expected to ban swimmers from countries with warm climates from attempting to cross the Channel if they fail to pass a cold-water test in the wake of the death of Renata Agondi, the Brazilian long-distance champion.

Mr Ray Scott, chairman, told the annual general meeting of the association yesterday that a sub-committee had been set up to carry out a stringent review of the rules covering cross-Channel swims. This would look into every aspect of instructions given to swimmers, trainers, observers and pilots of accompanying boats.

"It is going to be very difficult to lay down hard and fast rules for every eventuality but we shall try our best", he told a packed meeting at a cliff-top hotel at Folkestone, Kent.

Members stood in silence for two minutes in memory of Senhora Agondi, who died last August about three miles off the French coast. She was one of a growing number of overseas swimmers who attempt to swim the Channel in July and August each year.

Mr Scott paid tribute to Mr Mark Lewis, the American

observer who was investigating Senhora Agondi's swim. "He seems to have done everything which could have been done to try and save her. As a trained life-saver, he jumped into the sea to bring her on board the boat and tried to resuscitate her", he said.

Mr Scott disclosed that the association would reimburse Mr Lewis for £1,000 in expenses he incurred in travelling from Virginia, to attend a preliminary court hearing in Boulogne.

Mr Lewis, Mr Colin Cook, captain of the 50 ft trawler, Hilda May, his mate, Mr Graham Featherbe, and Senhora Judith Russo, the swimmer's trainer, have been charged under French law with failing to help an endangered person. If convicted, they could be jailed for up to five years.

Mr Scott said the review of the rules would look principally at the possibility of getting all overseas swimmers to undergo a swimming test of at least five hours in Dover harbour to ensure they were fit enough to complete a crossing. Senhora Agondi, who is believed to have died of exhaus-

tion and hypothermia, had been swimming in the warmer waters of the Mediterranean before arriving in Dover.

Mr Scott said swimmers, trainers and pilots may have to sign an agreement stating that the final word on abandoning a swim was up to the skipper of the boat. Mr Cook, Mr Lewis and Mr Featherbe have told a French examining magistrate that they tried to persuade Senhora Russo to call off the swim when Senhora Agondi was swimming in circles and clearly in distress. However, they alleged she refused to do so.

Mr Scott said such an agreement would be difficult to introduce. However, he said he was confident that new rules would be in force before the next season.

He said the association was waiting for the results of a post-mortem examination from France which would show whether Senhora Agondi had been using drugs or stimulants. So far, no swimmer who has tried to cross the Channel under the auspices of the association has been found to have been using drugs.

Duke's portrait of dance



The energy of modern dance captured on film by the Duke of York. A series of his photographs, which record a day in the life of artists of the London Contemporary Dance Theatre and school, has been released to mark his appointment as patron of their trust.

Baker rejects call for return to grammar

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

Calls from Conservative right wingers for a return to formal grammar lessons in primary schools will be rejected tomorrow by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

A report of a government committee, published with his approval, will say that rote learning and formal grammar exercises do not improve standards and should form no part of the new national curriculum for state schools.

The report, written by a committee chaired by Professor Brian Cox, head of English at Manchester University, lays emphasis on the importance of pupils learning to read, spell, punctuate and write clearly.

It says that pupils should be able to speak and write Standard English, but adds that regional dialects and accents should be respected.

Professor Cox's nine-member committee was appointed to draw up "attainment targets" against which pupils will be measured under the new curriculum which will start being introduced next year.

It was set up in the wake of the Kingman Committee report which suggested a new "model" of Standard English

to be used as the basis of teaching the subject to pupils aged five to 16.

Opponents on the left had then accused Mr Baker of appointing Professor Cox, a contributor to the right-wing Education Black Papers in the 1970s, to ensure that the committee would support traditional methods of teaching.

The thrust of the 198-page report, which will be published by the new National Curriculum Council, is that English teaching must be more effective if standards are to be preserved and improved.

It says that pupils should be tested on their ability to identify verbs, nouns and other parts of speech but rules out a return to formal parsing exercises.

Contracts to devise the first set of tests for the national curriculum will be awarded next month (David Tytler writes). It is likely that the front runner will be the National Foundation for Educational Research, in conjunction with Bishop Grosseteste Teacher Training College in Lincoln, the local education authorities in Sheffield and West Sussex, and the foundation's publishing group, Nelson.

WHITEHALL BRIEF

by David Walker

Taking steps into brave new world

"It's not quango-fication, nor nationalization, nor privatization", Mr Peter Kemp, project officer for the Government's executive management initiative, said the other day. The phrase may not have been elegant but it did convey his sense that the new executive agencies in Whitehall are a real innovation.

Mr Kemp, Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Minister for the Civil Service, is proving a lot of people wrong. When he transferred from the Treasury to mastermind the "next steps" initiative last February, many scoffed. Some still do; only vehicle inspection and companies registration have been put into agencies under an autonomous Civil Service manager.

But Mr Kemp's vigorous presentation of the Government's latest statement of faith in the initiative (its response to a Treasury and Civil Service committee's report) was impressive; so was the government statement itself — surely one of few in recent years that not only accepted virtually everything the MPs had to say, but invited them back soon to say more.

Whether Mr Kemp's enthusiasm is shared by every Cabinet minister (who stand to lose an empire and maybe a role as well) and every permanent secretary (whose jobs look less and less coherent the longer Mrs Margaret Thatcher stays in power) is irrelevant. But it was notable

worthy that the Prime Minister put her name to the Government's response to the House of Commons committee.

Mr Kemp admits he is out on a limb. He depends on the goodwill of ministers to keep momentum going and corral those — such as Mr Norman Fowler — who want to juggle with structures and titles at the drop of a hat. He needs fellow permanent secretaries, too, but he stands to make their lives uncomfortable.

The latest government statement drives a coach and horses through definitions of Whitehall hierarchy. Agency chief executives are now expected to be accountable; they will be required to appear before the Public Accounts Committee and other MPs' committees.

Doubters will say, rightly, that there is a long way to go before the permanent secretaries are supplanted; the agency principle has not even touched departments such as Customs and Excise... but there is a hum in the air.

Mr Kemp says he is an empiricist who simply wants to see how the agency concept develops rather than work to some great blueprint. In fact, he is a revolutionary, and more for what he intends to do to ministers than to his fellow Civil Servants.

In the brave new world after "the next steps", ministers will have much less to do. They won't be running much — regardless of how much some think they are running things now. They won't be dealing with MPs' complaints; those are to be channelled directly to the new chief executives.

Once they have set the framework, the machine will run itself, and the framework may not need to be rewritten for several years. Will we need 22 of them sitting round a table with the Prime Minister?

What will they do in this brave new world?

Civil Service Management Reform: The Next Steps. The Government Reply to the Eighth Report from the Treasury and Civil Service Committee. Cmd 524 (Stationery Office: £2.40).



Mr Peter Kemp, agency man out on a limb.

BA pays loyalty bonus to keep computer staff

By Roland Rudd, Employment Affairs Reporter

A loyalty bonus of one year's pay is to be offered to computer programmers at British Airways if they agree to remain with the company for three years.

A report published today by Incomes Data Services, the pay specialists, says the bonus, the first of its kind, has been offered in an attempt to cut staff turnover.

European and American airlines are poaching BA headquarters staff trained in Transaction Processing Facility, a highly technical skill, by offering up to twice their salaries.

As a result, turnover has jumped from 10 to 17 per cent in the three months to October 1988.

It takes two years and costs around £20,000 to train staff in TPF and the average annual salary is about £16,000.

Since 1983, BA has paid its 1,800 computer staff on separate scales from other clerical

and administrative staff. Scales are reviewed in line with the market every six months.

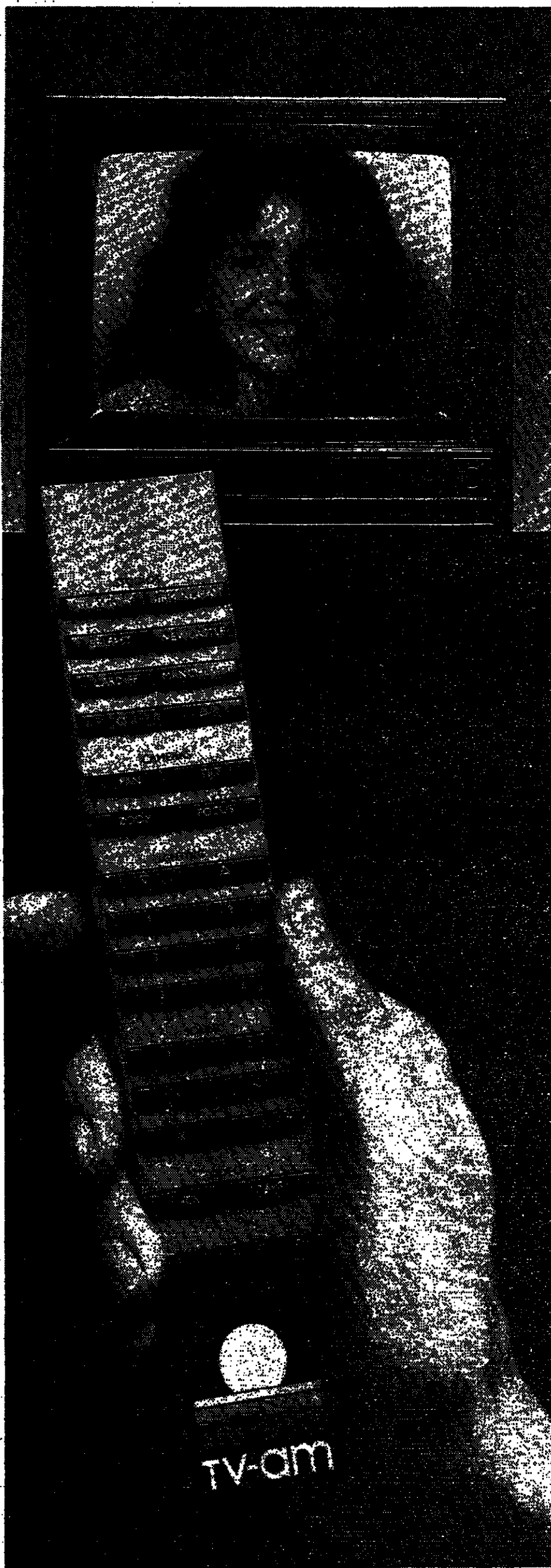
Yet, although they were increased by 3 per cent last January and by a further 3 per cent last July, coupled with performance reviews, it was not enough to retain staff.

The company has decided to offer the loyalty bonus to the 200 programmers using TPF straight away. It is going to give other computer staff the opportunity of TPF training, which would make them eligible for the bonus.

Other companies are also having difficulty recruiting and retaining skilled staff.

Pearl Assurance is offering skilled computer staff bonus payments worth 15 per cent of salary in 1987 consolidated into a new salary structure.

Incomes Data Services report 532 (IDS, 193 St John Street, London EC1V 4LS; by subscription).



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Sri Lankan rebels' leader vows to continue violence

From Edward Gorman, Colombo

Mr Rohana Wijeweera, leader of the Marxist underground Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna, or People's Liberation Front, warned Sri Lankans yesterday that his campaign of strikes and assassinations would continue until the front took power in Colombo.

He said in a letter to the English-language *Sunday Times*: "The Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna should be, and will be appointed to power by the patriotic people led by the poor people."

"The members of our party are willing to sacrifice their lives for their country and people," he said, adding that the path to government would not be easy. "When our members are willing to lead the people at the risk of torture and death, the people will have to make at least a small sacrifice to liberate the country and its people, and to win their rights," he said.

Mr Wijeweera's comments responded to 24 readers' questions published in the *Sunday Times* two weeks ago. The Front leader, in hiding since 1983, replied at the editor's invitation in a signed, long-hand letter and sent the newspaper 30 sheets of A4 paper by courier service, written in Sinhala. After checking the authenticity of the signature, the paper published

his answers, translated into English, yesterday.

The wide-ranging letter is particularly important because it is Mr Wijeweera's first public statement since he launched a campaign on violence and strikes in July last year which has intensified dramatically in the run-up to next month's presidential elections and has reduced wide areas of the country to a state of virtual anarchy.

The Front leader, in his late forties, makes it clear that there is no longer any possibility of his movement joining the political mainstream.

There had been speculation after offers of a role in an opposition coalition by Mrs Sirima Bandaranaike, a presidential candidate, and more recently the offer of a place in a proposed caretaker administration by President Jayewardene, that Mr Wijeweera could be prepared to abandon his campaign of extremism which has already cost more than 600 lives.

But, he says, there is no longer a "democratic path" in Sri Lanka, adding that he does not have the slightest faith in Mr Jayewardene. He is equally critical of Mrs Bandaranaike's opposition Sri Lanka Freedom Party: "They have no real solution to the country's present problems. In

the face of the present problems and people struggle, they have already been written off."

Mr Wijeweera suggests in phraseology drawn from the political philosophy of Marx that only a popular revolution would satisfy his political ambitions. "If the classes that exploit the poor, who are a minority, hand over state power to the proletariat, which is the majority, peacefully, we of the proletariat are willing to accept it peacefully. But history shows us that instead of handing over power, they try to remain in power by force, using violence. In such instances, the poor classes have to make a valid response."

Mr Wijeweera's list of grievances against President Jayewardene's Government is long and dominated by his disgust at the Indo-Sri Lankan peace accord of July last year which — in a classic expression of Sinhalese chauvinism — he calls a "pact of betrayal".

He describes the presence of more than 50,000 troops of the Indian peacekeeping force in the north and east of the island variously as an act of "Indian imperialism" or "an Indian invasion". He says the Indians will leave only if they are defeated in war.

In other grievances Mr

Wijeweera accuses the Government of murder and torture of political opponents and of conducting what he describes as "state terrorism" against the people by means of an organization called the Green Tigers.

His demands include the immediate dissolution of Parliament and the recently formed Provincial Councils; an end to corruption in the armed forces and police; the unconditional release of all political prisoners; the resignation of the President; and the lifting of the state of emergency which has been in force for more than five years.

"The task of creating a new era to solve the country's problems, of providing a new leadership, of building a new nation is in our hands," he said.

A senior government minister said he found the letter "most revealing", adding: "I think everybody will read it and re-read it and they will understand everything — which is that democratic forces should remain." Mr Wijeweera's power was based purely on the gun.

"He hates everybody," he added. "The JVP can't win in an election — they are nowhere near the political mainstream."

Leading article, page 17

Protesters demand Marcos return



Senator Robert Dole standing near a protest by some 4,000 supporters of the former President Mr Ferdinand Marcos outside the Philippine Plaza Hotel in Manila yesterday. Mr Dole, who is staying at the hotel with a US congressional team, was the target of the protesters who were demanding that Mr Marcos be allowed to return.

Elsewhere, the Philippines military continued a nationwide search for the former commander of the communist New People's Army who escaped from prison on Saturday. An angry President

Aquino ordered a full investigation, saying that she was calling her most senior officers to task for the blunder (Humphrey Hawksley writes).

Mr Romulo Kintanar and his common-law wife, Miss Gloria Asuncion Jopson, were allowed out of their maximum security compound to go to a birthday party for their former camp commander.

This is the second time in less than a year that a maximum security prisoner has escaped by befriending his captors. Three officers connected with Mr Kintanar's escape were suspended from

duty yesterday and several guards have been arrested.

"I am calling to task ... the officers responsible for maintaining maximum security regulations relative to the confinement of top communist officials and all detainees," Mrs Aquino said.

Mr Kintanar was believed to be the chief architect of the communists' military strategy. When he was arrested in March — together with several other senior communist officials — there was an immediate decrease in New People's Army activity.

Salinas passes key state election test

From Philip Davison, Villahermosa, Mexico

While the world's eyes were on the US presidential race, Mexico's ruling party claimed a landslide victory in the state of Tabasco last week in elections which had been seen as an indicator of the shifting political trends in the country.

The elections for state governor, mayors and local deputies in Tabasco were the first in Mexico since July's stunning nationwide setbacks for the Institutional Revolutionary Party.

The party's presidential candidate, Señor Carlos Salinas de Gortari, just scraped together a majority in July, and the party lost seats in the Senate for the first time and saw its traditional rubber-stamp control of Parliament turned into a fragile majority.

But the party had still never lost an election for governor, so that the Tabasco result was given more attention here than the presidential race across the border.

The announcement of the "official" Tabasco results has been postponed until next weekend, evoking memories of July when the Federal Electoral Commission claimed that its computer system had gone down on election night and took a week to announce results.

The opposition claimed then that the ruling party had used ballot "alchemy" to rob Señor Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas of the presidency. But the

Tabasco vote was being closely watched, not so much for the result as whether the party would fulfil a pledge to renounce its traditional intimidation and fraud and to demonstrate its mood for "modernization".

The answer, according to foreign reporters who travelled in the state throughout election day, appeared to be a resounding "No".

The ruling party claimed victory by around 80 per cent against 16 per cent for the *Cárdenistas*, based on information from government representatives at the polling stations.

Since these representatives controlled the booths, the "official" result was expected to be similar.

The *Cárdenistas* responded with allegations of massive fraud, saying that they had clearly won more than one third of the vote as things stood, and may have won an absolute majority "had the election been clean".

In most "booths" there were no private places to mark ballots and party officials were able to see each voter's decision.

While the election itself passed off peacefully, tension was heightened in the state when two trade union leaders were shot dead just outside the oil town of Ciudad Pemex. The motive for the killings was unclear.

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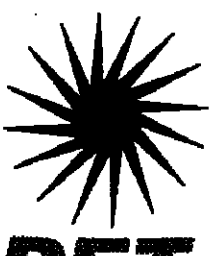
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Bush urged to shake up Pentagon

From Christopher Thomas Washington

President-elect George Bush is being urged by top advisers to seize an historic opportunity to impose sweeping reforms on the Pentagon, which faces such chronic financial problems that it will probably be unable to pay for all the new weapons ordered during President Reagan's massive defence build-up.

The Pentagon's huge bureaucracy and proven waste of billions of dollars of public money constantly dogged Mr Bush during the election campaign, and he hinted several times that the Defence Department would have to be overhauled and its spending curtailed.

Military budget analysts say the Pentagon will not even be able to afford to operate many of the new weapons due to be delivered in the next few years, even if it manages to pay for them, because training for the highly sophisticated hardware is so long and expensive.

Mr Bush, who returns from a four-day Florida holiday today, is being advised by some of his closest aides that public disenchantment with Pentagon waste makes it politically possible during his honeymoon period in the White House to force the Defence Department to accept radical, structural changes.

Some aides want him to appoint a defence secretary with proven management expertise in industry, rather than a political operative like former Senator John Tower, who has been widely tipped for the job.

Mr Paul O'Neill, president of Aluminium Company of America, has been suggested by some advisers as a sound



President-elect Bush making the most of a short break in Florida at the weekend with some fishing in the Atlantic surf.

alternative. Mr Bush is expected to be able to appoint his own chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff soon, since Admiral William Crowe, the present incumbent, is expected to step down before his term ends next summer.

The appointment is particularly crucial because the post carries unprecedented power after structural reforms passed by Congress last year.

General Larry Welch, the Air Force Chief of Staff, is favoured to take the job. He is regarded as an efficient manager, rather than an ideologue who would fight congressional attempts to curb military spending.

Despite Mr Bush's hardline

campaign rhetoric, close aides acknowledge that he accepts the need for Pentagon spending to be reined in, particularly at a time of such severe domestic expenditure cuts.

Even the Republican right-wing seems resigned to the inevitability that the Reagan rearmament era is giving way to a more austere period.

Mr Tower, a former chairman of the Senate armed services committee, worked hard in the Bush election campaign and the President-elect may feel he owes him too much to turn him down for the post of Defence Secretary.

Although highly respected for his knowledge of defence and arms control issues, many of

Mr Bush's advisers question the former senator's management abilities.

Mr Bush will spend most of this week studying the possible make-up of his Cabinet. His White House staff is likely to be headed by three men: Mr Craig Fuller, now his chief of staff; Mr Robert Teeter, his campaign strategist and pollster; and Mr John Sununu, the retiring New Hampshire Governor.

Mr Sununu has indicated, however, that financial considerations may force him to accept a highly paid corporation job.

Mr James Baker, named last week as the next Secretary of State, is understood to have held extensive discussions with

Rollins, a Republican strategist who is close to the Bush camp, said: "For all practical purposes, Jim Baker will be deputy president."

"He will probably be the most powerful ally of any president in modern times. He will run the foreign policy area. His judgement and respect in domestic policy will be very influential. No matter what the issues, Bush will go to him for advice."

● **TOKYO:** Mr Tower has said that Washington expects Japan to shoulder more of the burden of defending the West's interests, from the Pacific to the Gulf, even if that means Japan revising its US-imposed Constitution (Joe Joseph writes).

The former chairman of the Senate armed services committee said that Japan should be able to send naval forces to the Gulf to defend Japanese interests there and that Tokyo should bear as much as possible of the cost of stationing US forces in Japan.

Mr Tower suggested that such an increased commitment was possible within Japan's Constitution, which was devised by the Americans after Japan's surrender in the Second World War. Mr Tower said if it was not, then Japan could amend it.

"You are a democratic country and you can change the Constitution if necessary," Mr Tower said in an interview from Washington with Japan's domestic news agency, Kyodo.

Mr Tower said that Japan—whose defence spending swallows a modest 1 per cent of gross national product compared to Washington's 6.5 per cent—had the economic power to build up defence capabilities without lowering the country's living standards.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Britain agrees to Falklands talks

New York—Britain and Argentina, still formally in a state of hostilities over the Falklands, are to hold their first talks for four years (James Bone writes). Sir Crispin Tickell, Britain's representative at the UN, has accepted an invitation to meet Señor Dante Caputo, the Argentine Foreign Minister, and current President of the General Assembly.

Britain has consistently refused to discuss Argentina's claim to sovereignty over the Falklands, which led to the 1982 war, and British officials are playing down the importance of the planned meeting. They clearly distinguish the meeting from the talks in Bern, Switzerland, in 1984, which broke down over the issue of sovereignty.

Salvador security fear

San Salvador—The Salvadoran Government is mounting a security operation to try to ensure that the prestige gained from hosting the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) this week does not turn into embarrassment (Tom Gibb writes).

Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, head of the armed forces, accused left-wing rebels on Saturday of planning a series of disturbances, although the guerrillas themselves have called a unilateral truce. There are troops in full combat gear and armoured cars in the streets.

Britons quit island

Several British holidaymakers have abandoned holidays in the Caribbean island of St Lucia and are expected home today after gunmen robbed them and shot dead one Briton in a scuffle (Our Foreign Staff writes).

Masked men with shotguns held up the group of 35 British and five West German tourists while they were picnicking at a plantation in the island's north-west coast resort area, near the capital, Castries.

The dead man was Mr Leonard Frederick Wiseman, aged 51, from Hinckley, Leicestershire, who was shot in the chest after some of the tourists reportedly resisted the robbers. His wife, Eileen, who was with the group that was held up, is expected to return to Britain shortly.

Tax bill for hostage

Beirut (AP)—Mr Alann Steen, the American held hostage for nearly two years in Lebanon, has been ordered to pay US federal back taxes, his wife said yesterday. Mrs Virginia Rose Steen said the US Internal Revenue Service had sent her a computer printout two weeks ago demanding payment of his 1984 taxes within 30 days.

Mrs Steen, whose husband has been held captive since January 1987, said: "At first I was angry but then I laughed. You cannot talk to a computer, but you would believe somebody would look at what they are doing. In any case, since Alann was here in 1984, he is exempt from taxes."

Spanish flood deaths

Madrid—Flash floods on Spain's eastern coast were responsible for the deaths of at least six Spaniards, according to reports reaching here yesterday (Harry Debelius writes). Three others, caught in torrential rainstorms near Barcelona on Saturday, were missing. One man was hurt when a bridge collapsed. The victims included a mother and her two daughters, aged three and seven, who drowned after their family car was swept off the road. The girls' father, who was driving, survived. Roads and rail lines were cut by floods at a number of points on the south and east coasts.

Iberian links expand

After their entry into the European Economic Community, Spain and Portugal become the latest members of the Western European Union today at a ceremony in London presided over by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary (Nicholas Beeston writes). The foreign and defence ministers of the seven member states will attend the signing of the accession protocol, which is the result of six months of negotiations to give members a more cohesive defensive policy within the Nato alliance. Its role is subordinate to Nato's, and at present less clearly defined.

Dilemma for Japan in the US budget deficit

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

Japan does not like to be blunt, but it is getting bolder about warning Washington of the price of its fiscal profligacy and weakness for imports.

It wants America to cut its budget deficit, which is threatening the US and world economies, strengthening the protectionist lobby and cracking confidence in the dollar, the weakening linchpin of the world's trading system.

The dollar's descent since Mr George Bush's election has undermined the financial community's despair, and its belief that America does not have the stomach to tackle a budget deficit that is expected to top \$130 billion (£72 billion) in the 1990 fiscal year.

Japan fears it will be one of the first victims if confidence

in the US and its currency buckles. No sooner had Mr Bush's victory been announced than the Bank of Japan, the central bank, rushed out a report warning the new President that unless he cut the deficit, both the world economy and the US economy were under threat.

"The amount of interdependence between the US and Japanese economies is enormous," a Japanese Foreign Ministry official said. "We don't want to interfere in US domestic policy, but we want to continue our macro-economic co-ordination."

"We will continue to expand our economy through domestic demand. As for the US, we will ask that they take steps to reduce their budget deficit. It creates the over-

consumption in the US that attracts imports and contributes to the imbalance in trade."

That, of course, increases the risk of protectionism, which is the last thing export-driven Japan wants.

"We don't threaten them," the Foreign Ministry official said. "We don't do things like that. We're allies. 'Do you realize the consequences?' Yes, we do say that. But I think they know them as well as we do."

What Tokyo thinks about Washington's behaviour is important for the United States—even if some parts of America, which have yet to calculate the economic realities of the late 20th Century, have not yet woken up to the fact. As America's biggest

creditor nation, Japan provides the funds that are keeping spendthrift Americans afloat and financing the ballooning deficit. If Japan tired of buying the US Treasury bills that finance the government debt, Washington would have a serious problem.

If the United States lost the fruits of world financial leadership—which range from the ability to finance its debt in its own currency, to importing oil at dollar-based prices—American living standards would wilt. What worries officials in Tokyo is that when Americans start feeling the pain, they will look for a whipping boy: more likely than not, that will be Japan.

Tokyo does find itself in something of a dilemma. It reaps many benefits from

America's yawning trade and budget deficits. Its export earnings from cars and televisions continue to soar. Having learnt how to harness the yen's strength, it is also starting to enjoy the perks that go with a muscular currency: Japanese companies are buying everything from Impressionist paintings and new technology to the most expensive land in London, Manhattan and Hawaii.

But there is another side to the coin, too. If worries about the US deficit knock the dollar, the value and earnings from Japan's dollar-priced investments overseas will shrink.

Japanese officials predict that the Democratic Party, frustrated by its prolonged spell in opposition, will use its

majority in Congress to harass Mr Bush on trade issues.

Mr Shintaro Abe, Secretary-General of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, says pessimistically: "US-Japan economic relations probably won't be very smooth in the future."

Mr Koichi Kato, chairman of the LDP's sub-committee on liberalizing agricultural imports, put Japan's fears in a nutshell. He warned that if Mr Bush "tries to lower the livelihood level of the American people through raising taxes to reduce the financial deficit, there is a danger that in order to turn the dissatisfaction of the American people outward, US-Japan trade relations will be made a scapegoat."

Dubcek's pain for 20 lost years

From Roger Boyes, Rome

Mr Alexander Dubcek, in his first speech in the West, yesterday attacked the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia and blamed both the Russians and the Prague leadership for 20 years of "stagnation and sterility".

The talk, delivered at the University of Bologna to mark the granting of an honorary doctorate, was a sweeping summary of the reformist aspiration in Eastern Europe. Mr Dubcek, after 20 years of anonymity as a forester in Slovakia, has returned to the political stage with an energy that belies his 67 years.

Twenty years ago, said Mr Dubcek, "we defined our movement for the rebirth of socialism as 'socialism with a human face', and wanted in this way to express the rapport between human values and the goals of socialism. Now, as then, that was the pressing question for the communist

world. "If it had not been for foreign interference in 1968 in the situation of our party and our country, our efforts would have been crowned with success", he declared.

There was considerable confusion in the university's *aula magna* when the former Czechoslovak party leader appeared to drop some of the political criticism from his prepared text which had been distributed in advance.

But a university spokesman emphasized that Mr Dubcek had not repudiated a word—he was simply trying to speed up the proceedings which were being broadcast throughout Europe. The full text would have taken more than two hours to read aloud and Mr Dubcek was suffering from a heavy cold.

In a seminar with Italian academics on Saturday Mr Dubcek had repeatedly emphasized his support for Presi-



Mr Dubcek: Moscow shares blame for long stagnation.

dent Gorbachev of the Soviet Union. Mr Dubcek, in his most important public utterance since his removal from power, is treading warily, setting out more common elements between today's Kremlin and Prague 1968, than perhaps really exist. In his prepared speech Mr Dubcek had shown

no quarter to the Prague leadership of Mr Milos Jakes.

His country, he said, had been subjected to "economic stagnation, sterility and an incalculable loss of national morale". These and other criticisms were not actually read out during the ceremony, though they will stand on the record of the University of Bologna and are contained in the authorized text to be published today.

There was, Mr Dubcek conceded, something of an "intoxication of freedom" in 1968 that was, perhaps, excessive. That was a confession to some parts of the Prague Spring, such as the questioning of Warsaw Pact membership, would be too much even for Mr Gorbachev. But, Mr Dubcek said in his speech, "at least it was an atmosphere that could create perspectives for the future. In contrast to today when every form of dialogue is practically impossible."

Hungarian opposition calls for democratic elections

From Sallie Ecroyd, Budapest

A loose coalition of radical opposition groups in Hungary yesterday launched itself as a political organization on a platform of Western-style democracy and early free elections.

In the wake of government moves to allow the establishment of organizations outside the Communist Party, about 900 members and supporters of the Network of Free Initiative adopted a founding charter for the new group at a meeting in Budapest.

Their key demands include the free organization of political parties, the drafting of a democratic electoral law, and the holding of fresh parliamentary elections.

They also called on the Government to renegotiate Hungary's ties with the Warsaw Pact and to secure the withdrawal of Soviet troops as a first step to leaving the military alliance.

With such radical demands, the Network's aim of registering with the authorities will provide a real test of the new

Law on Association and Assembly, approved by the Government last week and due to go before Parliament by the end of the year.

The law will allow the formation of independent organizations as long as their aims are not against the Constitution which, observers point out, reserves the leading role in society for the Hungarian Communist Party.

However, one of the foremost members of the Network, Mr Ferenc Kocszeg, rejected any compromise in the organization's aims. "We want Western-style democracy. We don't believe there is any peculiarly Hungarian way to democracy or that there is a middle class between Western systems and Soviet-style socialism. The period of that ideology is over."

The new law's provisions, at least in theory, for political parties and "social organizations" were said last week by Mr Kalman Kulcsar, the Minister of Justice, to

"imply recognition of a multi-party system in Hungary". In practice there will be no legal role for rivals to the Communist Party until further legislation in two years.

Mr Kocszeg says members would therefore aim to field candidates in the next parliamentary elections in 1990 but would not yet declare a political party, for fear of being told their request was premature.

Other groups are expected to go ahead with announcing political parties. One group in the small town of Szentes, north of Budapest, has said that within the next few days it will relaunch the Smallholders Party, which briefly shared power with the Communists after winning more than 50 per cent of the vote in post-war elections.

The Hungarian Democratic Forum, a populist organization with some 7,000 members, has also announced its intention of standing in the 1990 elections without declaring itself a political party.

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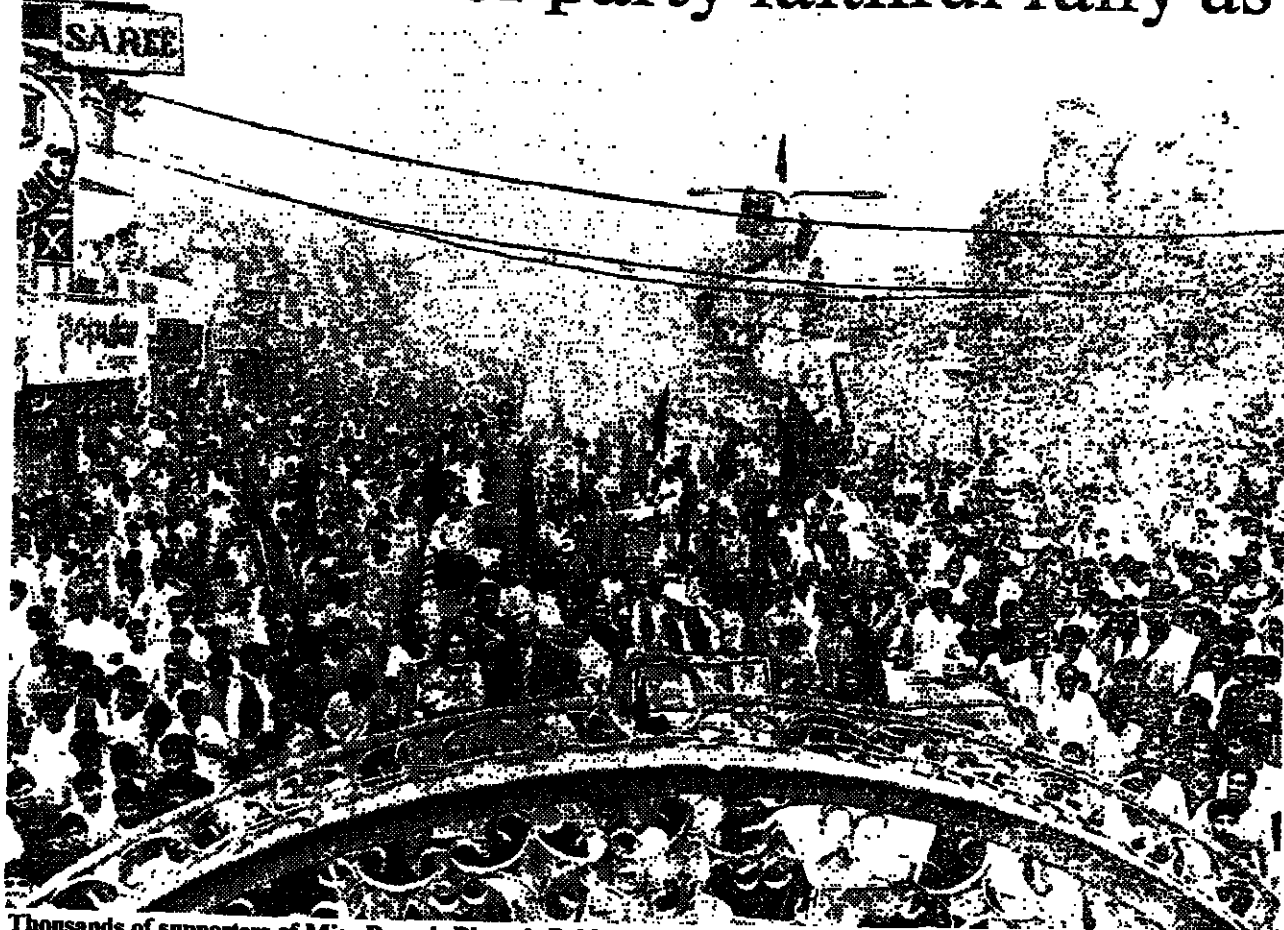


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Thousands of party faithful rally as Miss Bhutto winds up her campaign



Thousands of supporters of Miss Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party attending a rally in the garrison town of Rawalpindi; and Miss Bhutto addressing another meeting before completing her whistle-stop tour. (Photographs: Gavin Smith)



Chanting supporters dance in the streets of Lahore

From Anatol Lieven, Lahore

Crowds hundreds of thousands strong lined Miss Benazir Bhutto's route into Lahore yesterday evening as she completed her election campaign in Pakistan's largest province. Officials of her Pakistan People's Party are claiming that the crowd was one million strong.

Excited youths danced and sang, blocking the streets and creating an atmosphere between jollity and menace. They chanted verses in praise of Miss Bhutto, and insults against her opponent, the Chief Minister, Mr Nawaz Sharif—“Iron Thief” to them, because his steel industries supposedly profited corruptly from the Zia government.

In the background, masses of police with tear gas and water cannon twirled their batons gently, on guard for possible trouble.

The party's main opponents, the Islamic Democratic Alliance, have postponed until today the mass procession and rallies also planned for yesterday.

Mr Nawaz Sharif gave as the reason his party's wish to avoid the possibility of clashes between members of the two processions. He attacked the People's Party for organizing what he called “bands of

hooligans” to tear down Alliance banners and attack party workers.

People's Party supporters said that the Alliance had cancelled its procession so as to avoid unfavourable comparisons between their crowds and those of the People's Party. The party appears to have a definite edge of support in the larger cities of northern Pakistan. In Lahore itself, most analysts expect the party to win six out of nine national assembly seats. The party generally retains solid support among the poorer classes in many areas.

This vote, however, may have been affected by the Government order that an identity card is needed to vote.

Many poorer people, especially women, do not yet have cards, and the People's Party is also alleging politically biased distribution by the Muslim League caretaker Government. There have even been allegations that Muslim League ministers have machines for producing false cards in their houses.

The Supreme Court on Saturday confirmed the identity card requirement, and issued a stay order against last week's judgement of the Lahore High Court, which had

overturned it. The Lahore High Court had said that the Government had failed to show that identity cards had been distributed to all voters and that therefore many voters had effectively been disenfranchised. On the other hand, government figures showed that more cards had been distributed than there are voters, suggesting a possibility of considerable fraud.

The majority of Supreme Court judges are believed to have felt that there was a danger that a series of recent judgements had identified the judiciary with the People's Party. Observers think they may also have come under direct pressure from the caretaker Government.

The date for a final verdict on the identity card issue has not been set, but is academic, since it will certainly be after the elections on Wednesday. Anger is running high among Punjabi peasant voters who do not have identity cards. They were threatening to vote anyway — by force if necessary.

Bhutto supporters were visibly downcast by the court's decision. In a statement on Saturday, Miss Bhutto said that the court proceedings had established that “the process of issuing identity cards ... has been rigged against the people of Pakistan”.

She declined to comment on the Supreme Court judgement, but said that people without identity cards should go to the polling stations nonetheless. “If they cannot cast their votes, they must be present to prevent impersonators with bogus ID cards from casting votes,” she said.

She called for people at the polling stations to “remain peaceful, remain calm”. Observers, however, see considerable potential for violent confrontation on polling day.

Last night Gallup Pakistan released a nationwide poll showing the Alliance in the lead with 31 per cent of the vote and the People's Party trailing with 25 per cent, the balance being held by smaller parties and independents.

The conductor of the poll, Dr Ijaz Gilani, said he was surprised by the results. He said the fact that women were not included among the 1,175 respondents, and that illiterates were somewhat under-represented, might have tended to lessen the People's Party share, though not, he thought, by more than 4 per cent.

Feudal politics, by far the

most common belief that the party, and above all the Bhutto ladies themselves, are “un-Islamic”.

The alliance is making the keynote of its campaign the continuation of President Zia's Islamization programme. Meetings are preceded by prayers and readings from the Koran.

So too, frequently, are those of the People's Party. There is little doubt, however, that the westernized aristocratic leadership of that party is, broadly speaking, more “secular”.

To some extent, the alliance tactic may be working. Some women voters say they will vote alliance for the sake of their religion. Men at alliance rallies tend, however, to be of the small Jamaat Islami party, a disciplined radical group which provides the alliance with much of its effective strength.

The Islamic credentials of the Muslim League, by far the

largest component of the alliance, are less convincing. The original Muslim League created Pakistan — so why, People's Party supporters are apt to ask, hasn't it created an Islamic state already?

The answer is provided by Mr Mohammed Khan Junejo, the Muslim League's president and former Prime Minister. General Zia's official reason for dismissing him in May was that his government had failed to push through Islamization. Mr Junejo said that when the President reproached him, he asked why he himself, with autocratic powers, had not done

so. The answer, Mr Junejo said, was that General Zia did not have the courage.

“It is not so easy to persuade the people of Pakistan,” Mr Junejo said. “The people and the Ulema (Islamic teachers) are divided between many sects. Each one would like to preach the Islamic law according to their own ideas. We have not yet been able to find a formula which could give an Islam acceptable to all.”

Pakistanis are indeed re-

ligiously divided. Besides the Sunni majority, there is a Shia minority of about 20 per cent, and there are also Ismailis (followers of the Aga Khan), Ahmadi (a dissident sect declared by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto to be non-Muslims) and tribes whose Islam is heavily mixed with other traditions that would shock an ayatollah.

Sunni religious scholars are also divided between various theological schools, differences which are reflected in numerous small parties.

Finally, there is the Jamaat. It is strongly influenced by the Wahabi faith of Saudi Arabia. Sprung from the desert, this calls for the return of Islam to its original austere purity.

Massowrah, the Jamaat headquarters in Lahore, is an island of order and self-discipline in the chaos of Pakistan.

The Jamaat, however, has an uphill task here. In Multan people worship at the splendid Tomb of the Pirs — or saints — a contradiction of the monotheism of Islam. Multan's politics are dominated by the Pirs' descendants.

The result is a colourful, pluralist Islam, full of devotional songs, extravagant professions and even more extravagant legends — in Sind there is a Pirs who rides the

Indus eternally on the back of a huge fish.

In Sind, the descendants of the Pirs wield great political power. The Pirs Pagaro used to have the unquestioning devotion of the whole Hur tribe, and Pagaro still has a private army of several thousand men. Mr Junejo is a follower of the Pirs Pagaro.

Certainly the cry of Islam in danger has not led them as a class to support the alliance.

There is no united group of clergy as there is in Iran.

Nor is there in Pakistan any organized, united group of clergy to compare with those of Iran. This relative indifference to religious slogans also appears to be true of voters in general here. There is a widespread feeling that General Zia misused Islam for his own political advantage.

If, therefore, the Alliance wins this election — and it may well, with or without rigging — then whatever the Jamaat may claim, Islam will have played only a subsidiary role in its victory.

Religion will go on permeating politics here but it will continue to elude the clutches of any one political group.

Fighting off 'Fortress Europe'

Anyone who drives from Brussels to Luxembourg, Strasbourg and Bonn will be struck by the fact that in some ways 1992 is already here. Mrs Thatcher's demand in Bruges for internal frontiers to be retained despite the Single European Act may have come too late.

The process is far from complete, and Lord Cockfield, the Commissioner in charge of the Internal Market, has been serving warnings of “slippage”. The objections are not only British. Paris also opposes VAT harmonization, and the West Germans have doubts about a European central bank.

For travellers, frontiers can still mean delays, not least at airports, where in some cases the queues at the EEC passport control can be longer than those for non-EEC citizens.

But at road frontiers customs and immigration checks are already minimal, often with a lone official waving vehicles through. The frontier itself is marked by a large blue sign with the name of the country — France or Belgium — enclosed in the same circle of 12 gold stars. The effect is almost of passing from one province to another in the same country.

The 1992 process will have drawbacks for companies un-

Brussels View

By Richard Owen

is that as internal frontiers are formed external frontiers will be strengthened. This would not only protect the internal market against the vagaries of world trade fluctuations but would also seal the EEC's external frontier against terrorism, thus going some way to meet Mrs Thatcher's point that free movement within the Single Market must not benefit drug pushers or men of violence.

US or Japanese businessmen in Europe express anxiety that — as Mr Clayton Yeutter, the US Trade Representative, put it recently — the EEC is in danger of becoming a free trade area internally but “protectionist externally”.

The term which causes most concern is “reciprocity”. After

1992 the EEC can insist that if non-EEC firms want access to the markets of the Twelve, they must grant reciprocal access to EEC states. This arouses particular concern in banking. What if a US bank tried to set up in London, but Brussels refused permission because a Greek or Portuguese bank was being excluded from America?

To allay such fears the European Commission this month issued a discussion document entitled *Europe — World Partner*, emphasizing that the EEC as a giant economic block with 20 per cent of world trade is hardly likely to close in on itself. Both Lord Cockfield and Mr Willy De Clercq, the External Relations Commissioner, reassured “foreign” or non-EEC firms, including banks, that the rights of subsidiaries established in Europe before 1992 would not be affected by “reciprocity”.

Yet US and other “foreign” officials remain unconvinced. Lord Cockfield may even have confirmed their suspicions by warning that if non-EEC countries felt threatened by 1992, they had better “pull their socks up”.

The group of nations which perhaps fears the impact of 1992 more than most is EFTA, with countries such as

Austria, Switzerland and Norway, which border directly on the EEC. Yet EFTA is itself divided over how to react to the Single Market. Last week Herr Alois Mock, the Austrian Foreign Minister, hinted to Mr de Clercq in Brussels that a direct Austrian membership application may not be far off.

But soon afterwards Austria was rebuffed indirectly by Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, the Norwegian Prime Minister, visiting the European Parliament in Strasbourg, who criticized “impatient voices in EFTA countries calling for a direct, bilateral approach to the issue of membership”.

She regretted this trend because it would “weaken the image of EFTA as the only realistic tool for furthering a co-ordinated multi-lateral approach to European integration”.

Norway has reason for being wary of the EEC issue. Mrs Brundtland referred specifically to the need to avoid reopening the wound of Norway's traumatic 1972 EEC referendum, which finished in a “No”. But the problem she has raised — whether non-EEC countries should cope with 1992 by trying to beat the EEC rather than join it — will become more pressing as the realities of the Single Market become clearer.

Colombian drug gunmen massacre 43

From Geoffrey Matthews, Bogotá

In an horrific massacre in Colombia at the weekend, at least 43 people were slaughtered when a small gold-mining town was invaded by a band of heavily armed men who went on the rampage through its streets for over two hours “shooting at anything that moved”. Later, unofficial reports put the number of dead at around 60.

Early reports attributed the massacre to left-wing guerrillas trying to take control of the town of Segovia in the department of Antioquia.

But later it seemed clear that the mayhem was the work of one of the many para-military groups sponsored by drug racketeers in the departmental capital of Medellín, the nation's second-biggest city and nerve-centre of the South American cocaine business.

In particular, suspicion focused on one such death squad calling itself “Death to Revolutionaries of North-East Antioquia” which has vowed to assassinate mayors and local councillors represent-

ing Colombia's fledgling socialist movement, the Unión Patriótica, which has considerable support in the region.

But so indiscriminate was the shooting that local liberals and social conservatives as well as Union supporters were killed. Men, women, children and babies were among the dead, and it is feared that the final toll will be considerably higher. The gunmen wounded at least 50 other people in Segovia, several of them seriously, and they are also believed to have run amok in nearby villages and hamlets after leaving the town.

It was by far the bloodiest of a series of shocking massacres perpetrated in isolated regions of Colombia this year. The previous worst occurred in the neighbouring Córdoba department on Palm Sunday in April when 38 campesinos were killed by another para-military group backed by the drug mafia and known as “Los Magníficos”.

The mayhem started when the people of Segovia (population 20,000) were

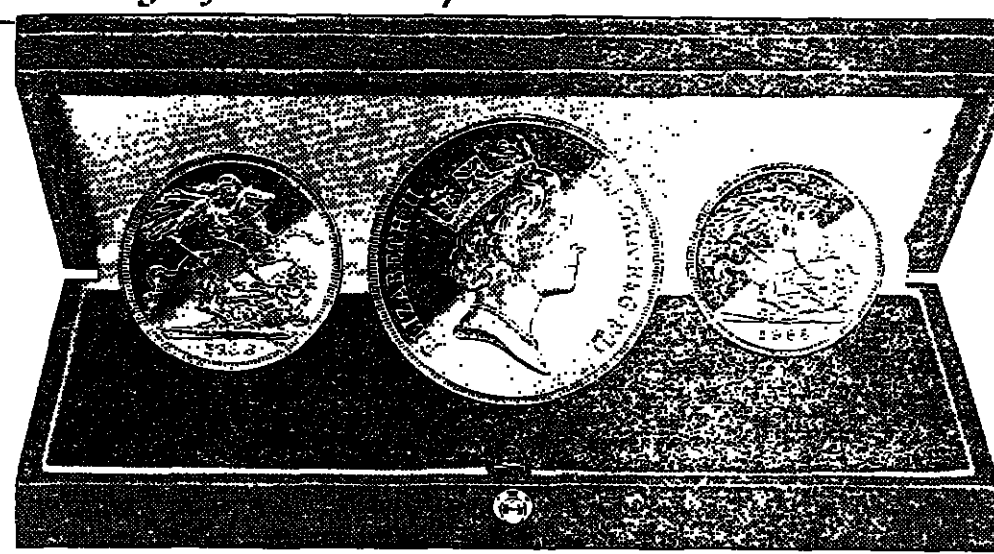
relaxing at the start of a long Bank Holiday weekend. Witnesses said four jeeps drove into the town's central plaza and about 30 men got out and started shooting into crowded cantinas and billiards halls and a passing bus.

As panic swept through the town and its inhabitants ran for cover, the gunmen headed for the mayor's office. Fortunately the Mayor, Senator Rita Ivonne Pabón, had left early. They then set off for the homes of known Unión members and trades union activists.

The gunmen ran amok for between two and three hours “shooting at anything that moved”, said witnesses.

Early on they had thrown grenades into the local telephone exchange, so severing communications with the outside world. Later the full horror of what had occurred became known to departmental authorities 100 miles away in Medellín government in Bogotá. For several weeks rumours had been circulating about the attack.

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Peres to back down over peace issue in quest for power

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Labour Party leader, is prepared to drop his public backing for an international peace conference in the hope that he will then be called on after this week to form the next coalition government.

In negotiations with the ultra-Orthodox Shas Party, he has indicated that he will not press the conference idea in return for the support of its six Knesset (Parliament) members. Since Mr Peres already has the backing of 55 members, the Shas support would just give him a majority of the 120 seats.

Mr Peres had virtually tried to turn the election into a referendum on whether Israel should agree to an international conference leading to the Palestinian problem. The dead-heat result of the election proved, if nothing else, that there is no national consensus in support of the idea, which was bitterly opposed by Mr Yitzhak Shamir and his Likud movement.

Faced with this Mr Peres is fighting for his personal political survival by making concessions he hopes will win the support of more Knesset members than Mr Shamir so that President Herzog will call on him to form the next government. That would then

give him up to 45 days to create a coalition capable of keeping Mr Shamir from power for the next four years.

His success or failure is largely in the hands of Shas, the "Oriental Jews" party, which has three times already postponed seeing President Herzog to tell him which of the two main political blocs it prefers. Although a majority of its supporters would undoubtedly opt for a coalition with Mr Shamir, its leaders have been having second thoughts since their success in the elections.

An important reason has been the widespread, almost hysterical public reaction to the success of the ultra-Orthodox. Women's rights groups have mounted a vigil outside the President's residence to publicize their fears that they will lose all the gains they have made in breaking the traditional constraints on their freedom. Newspaper columnists have spoken of Israel being destroyed by "Jewish chauvinism". One columnist said that religious extremism could even make the Holocaust seem understandable.

More than 50,000 demonstrators braved the rain in Tel Aviv on Saturday night to campaign for electoral reform in order to keep the religious

parties out of the Knesset. In the United States 27 Jewish organizations united to sign a warning of the "enormous damage" ultra-Orthodox legislation would have on relations between Israel and Jews in the Diaspora.

In view of this antagonism some of the Shas leaders believe a coalition with Labour would make the ultra-Orthodox party more acceptable to the secular public than if they joined Likud.

An equally strong factor has been the feud between Shas leaders and those of Agudat Yisrael, another non-Zionist party whose views are regarded as heretical by Shas. Mr Shamir needs the support of both parties to form a government, whereas Mr Peres would have a majority with Shas alone.

In the end Shas looks like going both ways with two members supporting Mr Peres and four backing Mr Shamir. This would mean that a total of 57 elected Knesset members will tell the President that they support Mr Peres and 56 will tell him that they want Mr Shamir. Since the other two ultra-Orthodox parties, with seven seats between them, are making no recommendation, it will be up to the President to decide which of the two men is most able to form a coalition.

Arafat snub to Arab moderates

From Christopher Walker, Algiers

The Palestine Liberation Organization's decision to flout Mr Khaled Abdel Nasser, the most wanted man in Egypt, as the star guest at the opening of its "parliament-in-exile" was a dramatic symbol of divisions in the Arab world over the future approach to Israel.

His appearance was matched by the absence of at least 40 Palestinian delegates from Damascus - prevented by a series of threats from the hardline regime of President Assad from making the journey because of Syria's implacable opposition to plans to close the session with the proclamation of an independent Palestinian state in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Western and Arab sources said that offices of radical Palestinian groups located in Syria had recently been raided by the security forces and that many of those invited to attend the watershed meeting were told they would lose their Syrian residence permits if they went ahead.

Mr Nasser, eldest son of Egypt's first President, is a fugitive from Egyptian justice who faces the death penalty in Cairo on terrorist charges which implicate him and 19 others in a string of attacks which killed and wounded Egyptian-based Israeli and American diplomats.

At Saturday's emotional and rhetoric-filled opening of the Palestine National Council, he was treated not as a criminal, but as a national hero and was introduced by the PLO chairman, Mr Yasser Arafat, in a way which signified backing for his alleged role as a leader of the group known as "Egypt's Revolution". Mr Nasser was not present when the group's trial opened in Cairo on November 1, the most heavily guarded court proceedings seen there.

The snub to President Mubarak, the leading Arab moderate, was underlined by coverage in yesterday's official Algerian press, which made no reference to Mr Nasser as a man accused of attacks Egypt claims were designed to threaten its security.

The appearance of Mr Nasser, aged 38, an engineer now living in self-imposed exile in Yugoslavia, stunned Egyptian observers in the conference hall, where he was cheered to the echo.

"This has put the new moderate Arab axis between the PLO, Egypt, Jordan and



Mr Yasser Arafat greeting Mrs Omm Jihad, widow of the PLO military chief Abu Jihad.

Iraq under immediate strain," said one diplomat.

The presence of Mr Nasser, the most potent Arab symbol of the armed struggle against Israel and the Camp David Treaty, was also a bitter blow to those who had hoped that the 19th session of the National Council might be the one finally to convince Washington to accept the PLO as a negotiator in the Middle East peace process.

"They could hardly have chosen a figure less likely to

of the desperate balancing act Mr Arafat is now trying to perform to prevent the PLO fragmenting.

"By choosing to put Nasser into the spotlight, they are trying to show they are not abandoning their revolutionary credentials," said one. "It was an obvious sop to the radicals who believe that Arafat is in the process of selling out to the moderates."

A similar interpretation was placed on Mr Arafat's opening address, a 20-minute tirade

Abu Dhabi (AFP) - Egypt yesterday backed the declaration of an independent Palestinian state. Mr Osama al-Baz, a senior government official, told the *al-Itihad* newspaper that such a state should be ready to live in peace with Israel. Mr Baz said the proposed proclamation by the Palestine National Council should be formulated to constitute a challenge to Israel and a test of its peace intentions, as well as to win the support of the international community.

convince the world they are transforming from terrorists to diplomats than a man wanted for political murder in Egypt," another Western observer attending the opening ceremony said.

Many Palestinians present saw Mr Nasser's provocative presence as an invited guest (openly approved by the Algerian Government, which has no embassy in Egypt) as part

which contained no specific reference to the PLO's plans to declare a state which by definition implies recognition of Israel's right to exist - a move the PLO has always studiously avoided.

Mr Arafat, dressed in his familiar olive green fatigues, often sounded close to hysteria as he landed the continuing *intifada* against Israel and vowed that the struggle com-

Two held in India over sale of secrets

Delhi (AFP) - A retired Indian army officer and a government scientist have been arrested for allegedly selling defence secrets to foreign powers, a government official said yesterday.

The two accused were named as retired Brigadier R.S. Deol and Mr N.W. Nerurkar. The spokesman declined to identify the "foreign powers" said to have bought the defence secrets.

These allegedly included the Indian Army's requirements in 1990, future projections of arms and equipment on the India-Pakistan border, and confidential reports about Delhi's plans to acquire combat aircraft, he said.

Quake toll

Peking (AP) - The governor of China's Yunnan province, site of China's worst earthquake of the decade, said the death toll would probably not go beyond 1,000.

Flights hit

Rome (Reuters) - The state airline Alitalia will cancel all domestic and international flights to and from northern Italian airports tomorrow because of a strike by air traffic controllers.

Kurds moved

Ankara (Reuters) - Turkey moved 3,600 Kurdish refugees from the Iraqi border at the weekend as the first snow hit the region, officials said.

Athens blast

Athens (AP) - A powerful bomb explosion at a suburban bar killed a woman, aged 20, and seriously injured three other people, police said. No group has so far claimed responsibility.

Minted dodo

Port Louis (AFP) - Mauritius has launched a series of gold pieces to be known as the "Dodo", featuring a portrait of the Prime Minister, Sir Anerood Jugnauth, on one side and the extinct bird on the other.

Seeing no evil

Milwaukee, Wisconsin (AP) - The official portrait of this year's city council shows one alderman with a paper bag over his head - his protest against budget policy.

Palestinians under curfew

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem

Almost half the 1.5 million residents of the occupied territories were under curfew yesterday as Israeli security forces brace themselves for widespread demonstrations called to coincide with the announcement tomorrow of an independent state by the Palestine National Council in Algiers.

With the Gaza Strip totally cut off and large areas of the West Bank sealed, the Army was under orders to break up possible demonstrations very quickly with the use of a great deal of tear-gas. The tactic was meant to force people off the streets before any incident

could develop in which troops resorted to gunfire, thus creating casualties that would increase tension.

Nevertheless one Palestinian was reported shot and killed and another wounded in an incident near the West Bank town of Jenin when troops opened fire on a car said to have failed to stop at a road-block.

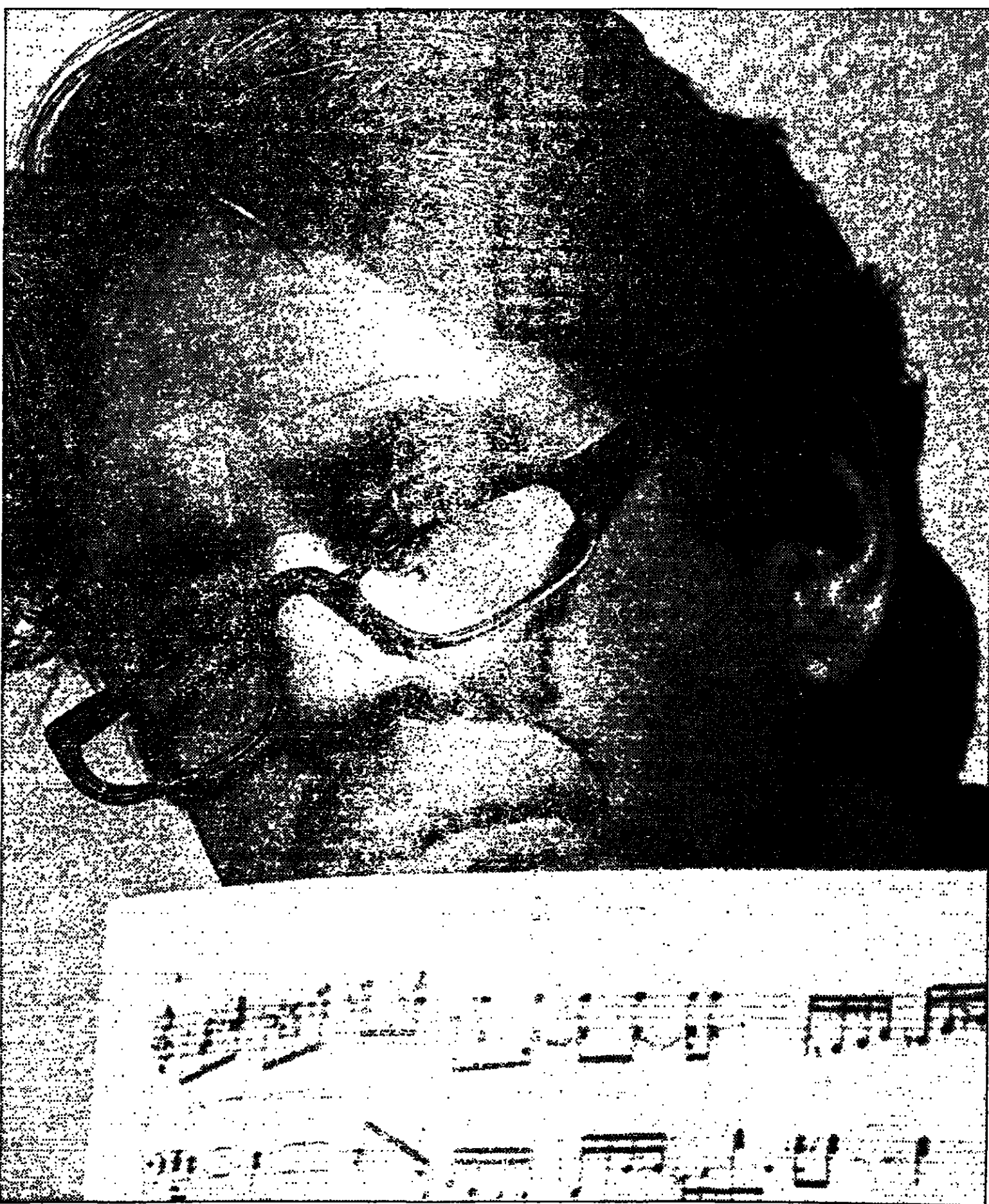
News of the shooting was issued by the Army. To minimize reports of what was happening, telephone lines to the territories were cut and journalists were only allowed in under military escort with prior permission from the

Army. The security forces' concern about the scale of demonstrations was evident when for the first time the Army issued a leaflet in Arabic for distribution among Palestinians.

It warned them that any statements made in Algiers would be "only ink on paper".

● **Tougher law:** After the petrol bombing of a bus in Jericho two weeks ago in which a Jewish woman and her three children died, the Israel Cabinet yesterday agreed to set up a ministerial committee which will make the death penalty more likely for serious terrorist offences.

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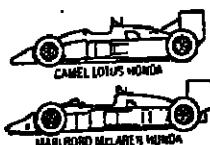


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WOMEN AND THE PRIESTHOOD

The Church of England is standing at a crossroads over the ordination of women to the priesthood. In the

first part of a series which will make an important contribution to the debate, Clifford Longley considers new evidence on the views of the laity

Part 1: Taking sides

Only 27 per cent of regular Anglican churchgoers are opposed to the ordination of women to the priesthood, according to *The Times/MORI* poll which is published today. And if "don't knows" and neutrals are eliminated, those supporting women priests constitute slightly over a two-thirds majority — just enough, if faithfully reflected in General Synod voting figures, to get the Ordination of Women Measure past the final vote.

Asked by MORI whether, on balance, they supported or opposed women being ordained as priests in the Church of England, 58 per cent said yes, 27 per cent no, 10 per cent backed neither view, and 5 per cent did not know.

The results of the survey, a more detailed and precise probe into Anglican attitudes than has been conducted before, could reshape the debate in the Church of England by eliminating some assumptions and myths. It also shows that neither side in the controversy has yet been beaten, and the eventual result is still anybody's guess.

The most important finding is that support for the principle of women priests is not backed by support for action now. Only a bare majority, 54 per cent, thought the church should "proceed as quickly as possible" while the rest wanted the decision postponed or abandoned.

But this 42 per cent against action now, if reflected in the votes of members of the synod, would lead to rejection of the measure. And there would be little chance of it being revived before the next century.

The survey also found:

- Little likelihood of a substantial split in the church;
- Little sympathy for dissenting clergy, or for their being compensated if they give up their ministry;
- Virtually no interest among opponents to the ordination of women in joining the Roman Catholic Church;
- Some expectations of larger congregations if the church ordaines women;
- A slight preference for male rather than female clergy in a counselling role;
- Only one in four agree with the "conscience clause" proposal, where parishes would have the right to decide not to accept a woman priest;
- Evidence that few of the laity take their opinions from their clergy on this issue.

The survey showed that regular churchgoers tend to be older and more middle-class and to include more women than the population as a whole. In our sample, 71 per cent were women (compared with 52 per cent of the nation); 61 per cent were aged over 45 (compared with 50 per cent); and 63 per cent were members of the social groups

A, B and C1 (compared with 38 per cent).

The survey shows that various votes in the synod on these issues have not been seriously out of line with opinion at the church's grassroots. Synod supporters of the ordination of women have never failed to gain a clear majority, but never managed to pass the two-thirds mark. The survey suggests that the 1990 elections for a new synod membership will not greatly alter this. And it is that synod membership which will take the final decision.

To be admitted for further consideration, a church measure needs more than half the votes cast in a synod division. After the drafting and revision process, however, it needs 67 per cent or more in each of the three synod houses, counted separately, before it can be passed to parliament and ultimately submitted for Royal Assent. So a vote against by more than a third of the House of Laity alone would defeat a measure at this stage.

Since the Ordination of Women Measure received its first synod majority, attention has been turned to the related issue of women bishops, because of the debates at the Lambeth Conference and the subsequent election of the first woman suffragan bishop in the United States. Three quarters of those supporting women priests also support women bishops, 44 per cent of the whole sample.

Behind these diversities of view, there lies a rich deposit of psychological and theological argument which the MORI poll, designed in consultation with *The Times*, attempted to explore more fully. The debate on the ordination of women is rife with assumptions about the reasoning of opponents, on both sides, but there has been little evidence so far against which to test those assumptions.

Yet if either side is to win the argument it must address the real beliefs of its opponents. For instance it is widely supposed by the proponents of women's ordination that all their opponents are male chauvinists, defending the last redoubt of masculine privilege in society. The survey therefore asked respondents to state their reasons for supporting or opposing women priests.

One of the survey's most striking findings is that more women support the ordination than men, but also more women oppose it. In other words they are more polarized and definite about their opinions: more men, it may be inferred, are neutral or don't know.

There is a fundamental theological difference between the Anglican doctrine of Holy Communion and of Holy Matrimony, in that Communion may not, on principle, be celebrated by one who is not ordained, whereas the solemnization of marriage does not in essence require ordination — though at present the law



requires it. So those who say women may not officiate at a wedding ceremony have either misunderstood the church's theology, or are acting from reasons of sexual prejudice (or both). In fact women deacons are already permitted to conduct marriages in the Church of England.

The majority of those who objected to women conducting a marriage gave reasons which were recognizably "sexist": Only 13 per cent cited religious reasons. Nearly 80 per cent of them gave as their reason one of the following: "Prefer a man; doesn't seem right; wouldn't feel comfortable; wouldn't feel married; it's a man's role; can look up to a man; men are leaders; women have no strength of purpose; it's a man's role; has always been celebrated by a man; it's the vicar's domain; tradition; women are not objective enough."

Celebration of Holy Communion is restricted to priests: in fact it is the definitive act of a priest. Here many more (31 per cent) cited religious reasons. But just over half gave similar reasons to

the "secular" categories above. The objections to women conducting marriage and women celebrating Communion were regarded to a considerable extent as the same. Theologically, however, the cases are different.

These findings support the view that prejudice against women in general is a fundamental, even decisive, factor in opposition to women's ordination. It does not destroy the theological argument, but it gives it second place.

Critics of the ordination of women, on the other hand, have often complained that the campaign for women priests was in truth secular, nothing more than the import into ecclesiastical affairs of the latest cultural and social fashion. If their own objections are so evidently no less (male chauvinistically) secular, they cannot throw stones. Nevertheless, according to the MORI poll, they are right.

Of those who support the ordination of women, two thirds chose as their reasons "women are just as competent; can do the job just as well; believe in equal rights; equality of the sexes". A further 4 per cent thought "the church

must move with the times". The theological argument, that God created men and women as equals and that the Holy Spirit moves women just as it moves men, appealed to 14 per cent. It is open to argument that respondents were more likely to give non-religious reasons in a survey of this sort, while not disclosing their deeper thoughts. But the impetus towards the ordination of women, if the evidence of this survey is taken at face value, is no different from the campaign for equal rights and opportunities for women in non-religious spheres.

The survey, therefore, suggests that theology is irrelevant to the formation of opinion on both sides of the argument to the vast majority of regular churchgoers. It also suggests that the crucial factor in the eventual outcome will be the way secular opinion settles down: at the point where no one any longer feels — or dares admit to — the sort of assumptions of female inferiority which are just beneath the surface in the "anti" camp, women's ordination will no longer be controversial in the church. But that, quite clearly, is not yet.

A CONGREGATION DIVIDED

How the flock is scattered

Supporters of the ordination of women are more numerous in the Church of England than opponents, but they do not care about the issue quite as much. This conclusion is suggested by interviews with some of those who replied to *The Times/MORI* survey.

Asked how important the issue was to them, opponents were more likely than supporters to say that it was very important, and more likely to have arguments deployed. But there were exceptions, and the prevailing impression is of a lack of polarized or fissiparous impulses in the church.

John Bateman, a 60-year-old retired civil servant and former churchwarden in Beckenham, Kent, is one supporter who declares that the question is very important to him. "I don't think the ladies will be satisfied with brass cleaning and making cakes, and I don't see why they should be."

Supporters were often inclined to sum up the reasons for their position in a simple "I don't see why not", such as Mrs Mavis Hopeton, of Kingswinford, West Midlands: "As long as they're preaching the word of God, I can't feel it matters who's up front."

This feeling often went along with an explicit reference to today's secular values. Prevailing views about the role of women were clearly influential on most churchgoers, but supporters were aware that such views are not easily reconciled with longstanding tradition, or with

nents of change, who seem keenly aware that they are a minority in the church today, appear more likely to have carefully formulated arguments already on the tips of their tongues. Minority views are not necessarily held with greater intensity than majority views, but they are more likely to be based in expression by regular challenge.

So it was not surprising that the most articulate participant I encountered on either side was an opponent, Mr David McCarthy of Sutton Coldfield, a lay reader. He had his grounds of objection already categorized under four heads — theological, traditional, pragmatic and aesthetic.

"The difference between the sexes is more fundamental than any difference of race or culture," he says. "We must by revelation think of God as a Father. Jesus was a man relating to women as a man. In the Eucharist, the priest stands in place of Christ, and we must relate to him as we relate to Christ."

Mr McCarthy's "pragmatic" arguments include the impossibility of knowing for certain whether a Eucharist celebrated by a woman is "real" or not, and the importance of resisting moves today to weaken the supremely important role of motherhood.

His "aesthetic" argument is based on a conception of the Communion as a holy drama, in which the priest is, in effect, an actor playing the part of Christ. For a woman to play that part would, he says, be an absurdity.

Some straight-forward churchgoers would find such a conception of the Communion outlandish and almost blasphemous. "It's utter rubbish to say that a woman shouldn't take Communion," says Mr Bateman. "It is symbolic, and it doesn't matter whether a man or woman does it."

Typically less concerned with theological niceties than their opponents, supporters of women's ordination often speak as if they cannot quite make out what the fuss is about. They recognize a problem of novelty, but not much more. "I have never been to a service taken by a woman," says 18-year-old Jonathan Howell Jones, of Sarisbury, who plans to study medieval history at university. "I would like to do so, but I would feel trepidation."

Mr Fisk is convinced that such feelings are temporary. "A couple of years ago our parish started to have women taking round the Communion cup. Two or three men always made a point of joining a line where they wouldn't have to take the cup from a female. Now they take the cup and no one thinks about it."

"It reminds me of what happened when they abolished the tot," says Tony Carey of Bristol, a chief petty officer in the Royal Navy. "People were outraged when the rum ration was done away with. They had always had the tot, they said. Once it had gone, everyone soon saw that the decision had been right."

But if *The Times/MORI* poll shows one thing quite clearly, it is that the Anglican Church very far from being a body inclined to be amenable to naval discipline.

George Hill

THE WAY THE SURVEY WAS DONE

MORI interviewed 414 adults aged 15-plus who identified themselves as Church of England when asked: "What is your religion?", and when asked: "Apart from weddings, christenings or funerals, about how often, if at all, do you go to a religious service these days?", responded: "Once a week or more often" or "Less than once a week to once a month". Of those qualifying, 63 per cent professed to go at least once a week, 37 per cent less frequently, but at least once a month. Interviews were carried out face to face in 52 constituency sampling points in England and Wales, from quotas set to match the known profile of members of the Church of England, between October 14 and 16, 1988.

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Tomorrow: Taking action

FIVE GET SENT TO COVENTRY

"Hush!" said Julian, indignantly. "I think I hear voices!" "Woof!" said Timmy, noisily. "Woof! Woof!" "Hush, Timmy!" repeated Julian, petulantly. "I think I hear a noise!" "Gosh, yes!" said Dick, imperiously. "So do I, Julian!" "Quick! In here!" said George, excitedly. And with one bound, the Famous Five leapt into a ditch.

Just in time! Because no sooner had they hidden than a familiar figure came bicycling by. He had grubby black hair, ever so neat, dark spectacles, and a knowing smirk.

"Gosh!" said Julian, "it's

Mr Baker, the Education Secretary. And he's cycling towards Bookbanners Cove!"

"I wonder what he's up to," asked George inquisitively. "Let's follow him!"

Off they set at a cracking pace, past Bluffer's Drop, until at last they reached Bookbanners Cove.

"What a wonderful bit of luck!" said Julian, enthusiastically. "We can see them from here — but they can't see us!"

Timmy wagged his tail. He knew an adventure when he saw one!

The Five knelt quietly in the shadow of a rock. They could see Mr Baker busily combing his hair.

"What's he doing?" asked George, quizzically.

"He seems to be greeting some very odd types," said

Julian, incomprehendingly. "What do YOU say, Timmy?" "Woof! He certainly does!" said Timmy, anthropomorphically.

Down in the Cove, Mr Baker was shaking hands with an unsavoury collection of children's authors and their equally disreputable characters. "Who's that he's greeting now?" whispered George despairingly.

"Looks like a Liverpool poet to me," said Dick, disapprovingly. "But hush! Let's listen!"

The man with long, balding hair was reciting in a nasal whine:

"Funny thing happened at lunchtime, I woke up and there was a dandelion on the ceiling. Funny that, really."

Baker's five

said the man, monotonously.

"Call that a poem!" exclaimed Julian, critically. "I'm sure Mr Baker won't like it, and that's for certain!"

But Mr Baker was smiling. By now, he was greeting someone else — a little boy who looked like a girl and wore shorts.

"Hush!" said George, bemused. "I'm on the list, wisty, misty, fisty, itsy, little list," said the little boy.

worst-drawn character I've ever EVER seen in all my life!" exclaimed George gruffly. "Who is it, Julian?"

"That's the



CRAIG BROWN

UP 116 150

The taint
test of
poverty

Conspicuous

MONDAY PAGE

The tainted test of poverty

The means test still conjures up images of the workhouse for many welfare recipients, reports Catherine Bennett

Margaret Gray remembers the means test man. He came round in the Thirties, when her husband was out of work, to scrutinize the family chattels. "We had a radio — just a small radio — and he pointed at it and said, 'That's a luxury isn't it?' My husband had made a one-string fiddle," Gray told him the box had come off a dustcart and the string had cost three pence down at the market.

When Nigel Lawson suggested, or appeared to suggest, the means testing of pensioners in order to "target" more funds at the poorest among them, he caused two of the most powerful national emotional responses to release themselves simultaneously: the indignant defence of the pensioner and his universal bonus; and the horror of the means test.

Many people who have never undergone a means test still have some notion of its workhouse connotations, of a time when Poor Law intruders demanded that impoverished families sell their pianos before getting money for food. To the 13 million people who, according to the latest available figures, are already means tested in this country, in order to claim income support (the old supplementary benefit), family credit, housing benefit, the notion of increased testing must have been a matter of indifference. They are already accustomed to declaring themselves in minute financial detail, on forms stretching to 15 pages, or lining up in queue shelters to get inside a social security office, or having their employers notified that they have declared themselves, officially, poor.

Anyone who fills in an income tax return is accustomed to declaring himself to the state, but Robin Simpson, Deputy Director of the National Consumer Council, says that means testing is different. "When you fill in a tax return, you are not declaring how poor you are, you are declaring how rich you are," he says.

Organizations such as the National Consumer Council, the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux and the Child Poverty Action Group are opposed to any extension of the means tested benefits — partly because of the "poverty trap", in which the low paid find that the better they do, the more benefits they lose; largely because of the low "take-up" of these benefits by eligible people.

"In our experience means testing can be inefficient in reaching people in need and it can be very offputting," says Dominic Byrne of the Citizens Advice Bureau. "When you've got means tested benefits the rules and regulations are that much more complicated, the claiming procedure is that much more difficult — and that forms the bulk of our work."

The Child Poverty Action Group points out that only one third of those eligible have been claiming Family Credit, a benefit for low-income families. "I don't think you would say that is an effective benefit," says Carey Oppenheim, the CPAG's research officer.

"There is hardly a single means test which has a huge rate of take-up," says Simpson, citing the student grant as an exception — "because going to university is seen as a positive thing."

The "stir" of taking means tests, and officially declaring yourself a poor supplicant to the state, is thought to be a major reason for the low rates of take-up, and Alan



Old times: the means test man considered her husband's one-string fiddle was "a luxury", recalls Margaret Gray

Walker, Professor of Social Policy at the University of Sheffield, a specialist in social gerontology, considers that this distaste is still stronger among the elderly. "There is a taint to the term which stems from their early experiences."

He says that one million elderly people are failing to claim income support to which they are entitled over, and above their state pensions. "The taint of social security is one that older people do not wish to be associated with, so there are elderly people in dire need, who are living in squalor, poverty, but fail to claim benefit."

Certainly Margaret Gray, and the other elderly ladies attending a day centre in West London, seemed unlikely to make strenuous efforts to

seek further benefits. "It's a waste of time," said Daisy Alexander. "I just draw my pension; I don't even bother. I went down to the social security office once because my husband was out of work, and because I was ten pence over the limit they wouldn't let me have anything. I wouldn't bother to go there ever again."

The state pension, currently £41.15, is provided for everyone who has paid National Insurance contributions over a long working life. Income support and a variety of other state supplements are available to those without enough contributions, once they have been means tested.

"There's all sorts of things which are added on top, and everybody gets a little bit different extra stuck on

top," said a DHSS information officer. "It's impossible to explain."

Which explains why many of the women said they were unable to go out for a cup of tea, and worried about how to pay heating bills. The prospect of yet more means tested benefits was unappealing.

Evelyn Davis tidied up the bingo tables, and said she wasn't a bit interested either, and she would not be going down to the DHSS to find out, whatever happened.

"It's such a disgusting place to go, I can't be bothered. Load of flannel they give you. I don't think we'll get more. I don't think we stand an earthly. Nobody sticks by anyone now, do they? I know, I'm 81, I've been around a long time."

To love and to betray

Peta Levi looks at the state of British marriage (and adultery) in the Eighties

After five years of research, Annette Lawson, a 52-year-old British sociologist, has written her first book: *Adultery: an Analysis of Love and Betrayal*. The title alone should guarantee that it does not stay on bookshelves for long.

In the United States, where Lawson is affiliated to the Institute of Research in Women and Gender at Stanford University, the book is already on sale. Lawson was head of Brunel University's Sociology Department before moving three years ago to California with her husband. She has since returned to Britain, where her research began as a result of three newspaper articles in which she appealed for people to answer a questionnaire on attitudes to adultery.

Five hundred and seventy-nine lengthy and detailed questionnaires were completed by people, mainly well-educated, middle-class and white, and aged from 22 to 83. About 100 of them were interviewed or participated in small group discussions.

The replies show a high correlation between pre-marital and extra-marital relationships, with the virgin men and women who married in the Sixties proving the most faithful. The sooner people start having a liaison after their marriage, the more affairs there are likely to be and, not surprisingly, the greater the number of liaisons, the greater the likelihood of a divorce. However, the number of divorces marrying their lovers is small (only 10 per cent). Nevertheless, whereas men's attitudes have not altered much, far more young women with pre-marital experience start adulterous liaisons.

Attitudes to fidelity are also changing. At the point of marriage, more than 90 per cent of women and 80 per cent of men in the study expected both themselves and their spouses to remain faithful. In 1982/3, when the questionnaires were completed, those still married to a first spouse believed in fidelity least, whereas attitudes to fidelity among the divorced and remarried women became much stronger, 80 per cent being firmly committed to it. Women are following men's sexual patterns more closely.

Young women at work, especially in traditionally male jobs — accountancy, law, finance and business — are starting to have a similar number of affairs to men. Conversely, men entering traditionally female occupations — social work, nursing — have fewer affairs.

So what are the reasons for people wanting to commit adultery? Forty-four per cent of men and women said that their sexual needs were not being met in their marriage. As a result of a liaison one woman said: "I cannot convey how marvellous I felt... I felt I had been made whole in some way." A man said: "I felt 10ft tall." Friendship for women and "feeling needed" for men were other important reasons listed by the sample. Emotional outlets were also important to women, as was the need to grow and change.

Although 80 per cent of the sample found much or some happiness in adultery, more than half also experienced unhappiness.

One male adulterer said: "I felt sick. I had to stop the car and get out to vomit."

Lawson's whole thesis is based around adultery as a story. She argues that romantic love, the "Myth of Romantic Marriage" — falling in love, marrying and living happily ever after — has become the most desired experience of love. However, "ever after" has lengthened due to increased good health.

Lawson says: "While long lives lived with one life partner may develop with various new adventures, they may also become devoid of this necessary sense of story a life lacking narrative."

Sexual exclusivity and permanence are linchpins of this myth, whereas the "Myth of Me" is the story of the development of the self throughout life. But for many women the pursuit of self frequently conflicts with the interests of family. Lawson goes as far as to suggest that a woman cannot fully develop her sexuality without experiencing a number of partners.

© *Adultery: An Analysis of Love and Betrayal* is published by Basil Blackwell, Inc. in New York and will be published by Basil Blackwell in the UK on February 14, 1989 (£13.95).

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Lawson: adultery story

Conspicuous by its moneyed presence

We have been through conspicuous consumption (the chauffeur-driven Mini cars and antique stoves instead of central heating) and conspicuous consumption (whirlpool baths and his-and-her computer terminals), so it is no surprise that the new advertising concept — I believe the technical term is concept, but it might be unique selling point — is conspicuous subtlety.

Halston, the clothes designer once known for his conspicuous conspicuousness, during the time when he dressed several high profile ladies such as Liza Minnelli and Jacqueline Onassis in moulded jersey dresses which

revealed the shape of their navels and much else besides, now promotes his gentlemen's range of apparel under the banner of conspicuous subtlety with much talk of maintaining "the integrity of the clothing", as if a sports jacket could suddenly turn out to be as treacherous as a double agent.

I think I know what he is on about, though. Conspicuous subtlety takes a while to let you know that it smacks of money. Conspicuously subtle women do not wear a flick of make-up on their face. Instead they spend thousands of pounds on a skin-care routine which provides everything from little, pitch-black bars of

soap which cost £10 to neck creams that you more or less have to take out a second mortgage to afford. And they never deviate from their cleansing, moisturizing and, toning, not ever. Not even when they come home at two in the morning and are tempted to go to bed without having stroked costly guage around the sensitive eye area first.

They then acquire the reputation of being natural beauties, although a far more natural way to behave is to neglect to

wash your face when you're tired to death and to try to repair the damage with lots of foundation the morning after.

Conspicuous subtlety is food for a rabbit casserole liberally laced with three star brandy. The rabbits will, of course, have been shot on the host's own acreage. Tableware and napery will be minimal, but as you help your hostess take the plates back into the kitchen, you will notice that the stainless steel rubbish bin has been designed by one of

the more famous contemporary sculptors. Conspicuously subtle people do not go on holiday since all the paraphernalia of travelling — Concorde, hotels and changing for dinner — are frightfully vulgar. Instead, they say that they are "staying at home this year", having first made sure that "home" is a castle in Spain, a chateau on the Loire or a Georgian farmhouse in Ireland.

Conspicuously subtle people are the ones who sell works of art at gala auctions rather than acquire them — "I was beginning to get a bit bored with the Van Gogh, to tell you the truth, and the insurance

company was being tiresome". The credit card revolution has passed them by since they seldom need to buy anything.

Writers give them signed first editions of their books, aged aunts leave them 18th-century chandeliers and they never have to redecorate their houses as the most conspicuously subtle thing you can do is to have flaking patches on the drawing-room walls and cracks in the original stone floor.

Just as long as everyone knows that if you really wanted a spanking new decor you could call in Princess Michael of Kent to come and do it at cost price.

PENNY PERRICK

Conspicuous subtlety is food for a rabbit casserole liberally laced with three star brandy. The rabbits will, of course, have been shot on the host's own acreage. Tableware and napery will be minimal, but as you help your hostess take the plates back into the kitchen, you will notice that the stainless steel rubbish bin has been designed by one of

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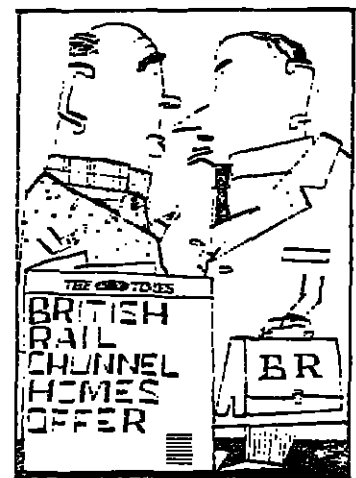
I own some framed prints in the London Cries series. I recall with a special affection "Who'll buy my lavender?" and "Ding-Dong the Muffin Man" — depicting an old boy on a bicycle balancing on his right hand a tray heaped with his wares. These messages are so outmoded and the portrayals of the people issuing them so pathetically passé that it might well be worth commissioning a follow-up collection of London Shouts that would be meaningful in our contemporary lives. "Who'll mend my television?" "Know ye a plumber who doth charge a call-out fee beneath £43.99 plus VAT?" "Cheese for sale" — this is heard most frequently in street markets where traders have access to those who clear supermarket shelves of dairy produce that has outlived its self-by date.

On Thursday the siren voices will be raised once more, to bring to the attention of the great, gullible British public *l'arrivage de Beaujolais Nouveau*, a tipple that belies the very fundamentals of viticulture which are based on careful blending, tender transportation and leisurely maturing at a controlled temperature. What is interesting — and seems to have gone unnoticed — is that the "Nouveau" is never compared to wine, simply to Beaujolais Nouveau of other years, and if you should want to go to a wine bar on Thursday morning and join in this game as the commando races in carrying a pouchful of bottles with which he jumped from an aircraft minutes previously, here are some useful phrases that will show the world you have been paying attention: "... lacks the femininity of 1979 and 82; richer than 80; more 'giving' than the hard wines of 81 and 86..." and when lost for words, look significantly into the middle distance and sigh for 1985.

My introductory taste — I was taken away in an unmarked car, blindfolded and allowed a slurp (it was like eating grouse on the *Glorious Eighth*) — was pretty much what one would expect: Nouveau '88 has a sort of fruity smell, a richness previously you remember the parsimony of the 1984 brew, a high degree of tannin all contained within the traditional hype. "Less exuberant than his bon-bon Anglaises of yesteryear," writes one shipper. "With the fruit of raspberry and peach replacing the dominant flavour of banana that characterized the 1987s." What should you do? Send it back to Beaujolais, which already exports 150 per cent of the wines produced in the region.

Our Neff washing machine aged ten — and I expect that as with horses and dogs there is some formula which translates this into human age — has given up the ghost. It went clunk between rinse and spin and while I could see my dress shirt with one arm around a boxer short, the door would not open to allow me to get it out. Goodness, there have been signs of senility, like incontinence causing the flooding of the kitchen floor, but this was altogether more final. Dead, said the dealer when I described the symptoms. Sneaked out, you need a new model. ... and on Tuesday two burly men carried a huge replacement up the 91 stairs that separate our kitchen from street level. They will fit it *in situ*, said the dealer, and take away the old machine for a tenner. It was not as simple as that: the old machine had wires and tubes and discharge pipes in quite different places from its successor model and after an enforced spending spree at the Danish laundry (£14 for six shirts) a small Australian mechanic arrived to make the wall behind the machinery user-friendly to the new appliance; replaced the floor tiles, shoved the machine into its nook; accepted a cup of coffee and went to book his return ticket to New South Wales. Yesterday we had to take up the tiles again, manhandle the monster machine out of its recess to turn on the tap situated behind it. "Who'll tile my kitchen floor?" is another good cry that deserves to come back.

BARRY FANTONI



"We'll pay the full market price — which has topped considerably since it's on a blighted route."

I saw an interview with a Windsor Castle guard on TV the other day and the man was asked what had been the silliest question he had had to answer. It had come from an American: "What were they thinking of building a castle so close to the airport?" At Windsor race course, whether I went to see the Princess Royal ride the second race on Saturday, one is quite pleased about the over-flying aircraft. They are about the only things to look at, for the figure-of-eight course snakes away into the countryside with the horses out of view. HRH had a rotten afternoon of it. She walked the course to familiarize herself with the shape and the fences, came quietly into the saddling enclosure, mounted her horse, cantered to the start and got into it by another horse at the first fence. She picked herself up from the lush green Berkshire turf and was whisked away. The small, loyal crowd said "Hope she'll be all right for the birthday ball on Monday" and moved off to eat plates of curried prawn and rice, £2.50 — good dish, though curried prawn and rice would have been an even more accurate description.

As the duty diarist on the Prince of Wales's 40th birthday I send good wishes and hope he will be as cheered as I was on my son's 30th birthday on Saturday — when euphoria was achieved via many bottles of a cool peach sparkling wine.

Lahore

"They come to me during the campaign, and they say, 'Sardar Sahib, our son has passed his matriculation. One year ago we asked you to find him employment. Still he has no job'. There are more than 10,000 unemployed youth in my constituency. How can I help them all?" These words from a Pakistani People's Party candidate in a rural constituency illustrate the way in which patronage is one of the basic elements of the Pakistani election this week.

They also illustrate one of the reasons for the traditional instability of the Pakistani political scene. In a relatively poor country there is never enough even to begin to satisfy everyone, and opponents of any government will always find a reservoir of disappointed politicians for a party split and discontented youths for a street demonstration.

As powerful men in Pakistan seek favours for themselves from the state, so their ordinary followers expect the same from them. On the platform of Punjab's chief minister at a rally of the Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) in his province I saw a local candidate frantically assembling and re-writing petitions to the chief minister passed to him from his constituents in the crowd.

Anatol Lieven reports on the realities of the Pakistan election

Politics and patronage

They covered everything from a request from a medical student to be transferred to another college, so that he could live with his family, to a request from a village for a metalled road. Men of power, who channel this patronage, are still usually landowners, and in Europe would have been called noblemen. Even candidates for urban constituencies in this campaign, described as "middle class" or "professionals", often turn out to be from such families. Other urban candidates are usually from wealthy commercial or industrial families.

As the importance of these economic sectors slowly increases at the expense of agriculture, so men from these backgrounds are very slowly eroding the supremacy of the landed elite. Mian Nawaz Sharif, the chief minister of Punjab, is an industrialist, a fact that causes much jibing in the aristocratic drawing rooms of Lahore.

The Bhutto ladies, themselves great aristocrats, have come in

for some harsh criticism from their own left wing for having deliberately recruited wealthy and well-connected candidates for this election, including ones who only shortly before had been supporting General Zia.

The reasons for this move, which has weakened the morale of the party, are that it was necessary in order to reassure the elites that the PPP is no longer either socialist or revengeful, and that such people are quite simply necessary in order to win. This is both because of their local power and because candidates mostly have to finance their own increasingly expensive campaigns.

The power of these families operates partly through simple economic muscle: great areas of Punjab, and still more of Sind, are still covered by landed estates. Their owners also use their personal connections in government and business, which enable them to find "their" people employment and contracts from the state. Some,

descended from historic Muslim leaders, can rely on hereditary religious prestige, and many can mobilize feudal loyalty.

However, mass ideological politics are not completely absent. The "socialism" of former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto has given the PPP enduring loyalty among industrial workers and the poor generally. It is because these people are less likely to have identity cards — quite apart from fears of rigging — that the PPP has been opposing the government's insistence that a card is necessary to vote. Meanwhile, the IDA is exploiting the economic fears of some middle-class voters.

The IDA is also making determined attempts to appeal to religious sentiments, while the PPP, though emphasizing its own Islamic faith, says religion should be kept out of politics. Both sides are appealing to nationalism, but the PPP is preaching a generally more moderate variety.

The voters are also influenced

by the same economic considerations that affect voters everywhere. The IDA benefits from the fact that the country has become richer in recent years, while the PPP points to growing inflation. At meetings in the countryside, candidates cannot rely wholly on traditional factors — for their rivals are raising contemporary local issues. They also have to spend time in their constituencies. The days of absentee landlordism are over for men with political ambitions. Voters now expect their MPs, however grand their names, to serve their interests.

With time, all these factors may bring about a growth of real party politics — if a new period of military rule does not intervene. If the generals do come back, a major reason is likely to be ethnic violence in Sind, bringing with it the threat of foreign intervention. The other will probably be governmental instability caused by the chronic factionalism and feuding of Pakistani politics.

Across much of Pakistan, electoral politics are a continuation of private warfare by other means. Nobles and peasants alike pursue family feuds with passionate attention, and their spirit extends to the top of the political system. Lifting a rival's cattle passes naturally into lifting his votes — or even his voters. Winning an election becomes a matter of personal "honour" and a defeat will one day be avenged even if the winner has in the meantime joined your "side".

Such vendettas, even if carried out in parliament rather than in the fields, are not a good basis for the stable democratic politics honestly desired — if little practised — by most people. There are in the PPP some dedicated liberal democrats whose loyalty to their ideals costs them terrible sacrifices under martial law. The memory of this gives the party much of its popular prestige. On the religious wing of the IDA, there are people similarly dedicated to the building of a just Islamic society.

Quite apart, however, from the fact that these two groups loathe each other, neither has so far been able to make its ideology a real force for discipline inside its group, or in politics in general. The experiment in operating a democratic system without this discipline is now about to be resumed.

Bernard Levin

Doctor Tom's final curtain

We laid Tom Walsh in the earth on Friday, under a glorious Indian-summer sun, in the Barnstaple cemetery outside the town; that way he can sleep amid the soft green hills of his native County Wexford which he loved so much. After the requiem mass in his home church, the cortege formed up, we filled the street from side to side and end to end. Solemn robed figures walked immediately behind the hearse; easily mistaken for members of the Guild of Mastersingers, they turned out to be the entire borough council, in full fig.

The town band wasn't there; perhaps it had been wrongly thought insufficiently reverent for such an occasion. The Taoiseach, though, had sent a telegram. The flowers, piled up, made an Everest of beauty and farewell; the church was heaped with their scents. We sang "Abide With Me", and meant it. "Well, your man had done a lot for the place, starting by being born there, in 1911 (he missed his 77th birthday by a fortnight). He qualified as a doctor at Dublin University in 1944; he practised in the town from 1944 to 1955; from 1955 to 1977 he was the anaesthetist for the Wexford County Hospital. In 1951 he founded the Wexford Opera Festival, and was its director until 1966.

His worth and achievements were recognized; the University of Dublin made him first an hon MA, then an hon doctor of philosophy, then an hon doctor of literature. He was an hon fellow of the Faculty of Anaesthetists of Ireland, a fellow of the Royal Historical Society, a Knight of Malta, a freeman of Wexford (well, I should think so). He wrote a series of scholarly books on the history of opera — another, finished, is in the press; he was twice married and widowed; he is survived by his daughter and sister.

Facts, facts, useful things for charring the stops of life, and

seeing who gets off or on; not much good at conjuring the actual man on the actual bus. That shall be my task this morning.

Tom died smiling. At least, I assume he did; he was certainly smiling when I saw him in Wexford Hospital a few days before the end. As a doctor, he could not deceive himself about his condition, and his colleagues did not try to bluff him. But there were no solemn farewells; solemn farewells were not much in his line, except, to be sure, operative ones.

Wexford knew him as "Doctor Tom", and would call him nothing else. He had retired from active practice a decade before, but until recently he would keep his hand in by slipping over to England to do an annual locum.

When his health began to fail, some way into 1988, we devised Operation Tomplot — "we" being the group of friends who go, every autumn, to his festival. We lured him to Sussex, he all unsuspecting while we were hiding out in the hedges and ditches around him, togged up and ready to carry him off to Glyndebourne; the girls had dressed more beautifully than ever, for him. The Plot held: "Bernard, you swindler!" he cried, as the whole gang crashed through the door. I had wondered mildly, and put the point to his daughter Victoria, what she would say if he asked why the tea-table was set for 15. "We'll keep him out of the room," she said, "and anyway, Daddy wouldn't notice."

I was perfect Glyndebourne weather that day; a cloudless sky, a breeze to cool it, the gardens beginning to recover from the devastation of the hurricane. In the interval, up on the roof-terrace, the Christians poured libations in which we drank his health. Brian Dickie was of the company; he is now general manager of Glyndebourne, but in 1967 he had had the alarming task of stepping into Tom's shoes as



Tom Walsh: a life devoted to tending the sick and spreading the love of music

director of the Wexford Festival. The Glyndebourne meeting was a moving moment; George Christie, a man who inherited a festival and thereafter dedicated his life to it, stood beside Tom Walsh, a man who created one out of nothing, and lived to see its fame spread wide. Then we went back into George's Festival Theatre, for the rest of *Die Entführung*, of course it was for Mozart for Tom, whose love for that composer was passionate and unwavering.

Not many men devote their lives to the selfless service of their fellows. Tom Walsh did it twice over; as doctor and as man of music. "Doctor" says all that is necessary for the first part, and if you think it doesn't, ask his patients in Wexford. But "man

of music" is a feeble phrase for what it encompassed in his case. He simply decided that the quiet little town of Wexford should have an annual operatic festival to which, in due course, the world would come. And the money? Tut, the ravens fed Elshah.

I often wish I had been living in Wexford at the time; I would have loved to watch the scene as he went about the town telling people of his plan, while the news went much faster about the town that Doctor Tom had gone mad. For consider: Wexford in 1951 was not only a quiet place, unheard of outside Ireland and hardly heard of even inside; it was also savagely poor. The theatre hadn't been used as such for a century (some say two;

moreover it would hold only 400 people, and anyway it was now a furniture repository).

The very Muses wrung their hands and wept at so forlorn a hope, but they didn't know Doctor Tom; the iron-clad principles of rectitude and honour that guarded his life were translated into an irresistible determination to see his dream realized. The Wexford Opera Festival, with the weeping Muses engaged for the chorus as a token of forgiveness, opened its doors on time; that was 37 years ago, and they haven't shut yet. *Si monumentum requiris, circumspice*.

On Sunday morning during the festival, Tom always kept open house for his friends. Now he was adamant that he would be

there to preside as usual, even if his hospital bed had to be put on wheels and pushed all the way to Lower George Street; as the week went by, though, even he had to admit defeat. But when he did, he was even more adamant that the ritual would be kept to, even if our host was from home.

Tom's Catholicism was deep, tenacious and complete; he suffered great distress when his beloved daughter married out of the faith. But there was no estrangement, and he died full of joy in the knowledge that a grandchild was soon due.

He sought no fame, no fortune. He had got hold of the notion that he was on earth to tend the sick and spread the love of music, and he pursued both vocations with great diligence and no fuss. It pleased him, as it pleased all of us, that over the years Wexford had become noticeably better off; his festival brought a good deal of money into the town.

We returned, *en masse*, to the hospital, to see him for the last time; the group was almost identical to that of the Great Tomplot. The doctors wouldn't let us in all together, but said we could go in two by two, each pair strictly enjoined to stay only a few minutes. He had been wandering a little, but he was perfectly clear with us.

He fought on for another week; death would not have dared approach his bedside until the 1988 festival was over. Last Tuesday afternoon, he fell asleep, and in sleep he left us. We who knew him will keep his memory bright, forever in his debt for the joy and friendship he and his festival have given us. We are even more blessed by having known and loved a man of such goodness, wisdom, generosity and laughter. Doubt not that he feasts in Heaven this night, with Mozart on one side of him and Hippocrates on the other, and a glass of good red wine in his good right hand.

Commentary • RAYMOND PLANT

Echoes of the 1880s

Debate about the role of the state, the nature of liberty, the rights and obligations of citizenship and the scope of the market — bears an uncanny resemblance to similar debates just a century ago. Many of the deepest issues today could benefit from being seen in historical perspective; and then we would be able to get on with the real job of rethinking ideas and values without being deluded into thinking that we have invented the wheel.

Take two of the central issues of contemporary debate: freedom and citizenship. We can immediately see that there is a close resemblance between current right and left-wing views and the controversy of a hundred years ago. The 1880s were a time of reaction against free-market views, particularly within the Liberal Party. There had been a period when free-market ideas had been dominant within Liberalism, which indeed owed much of its modern identity to the struggle for free markets in the repeal of the Corn Laws and Gladstone's early budgets. So it was natural that the free-market ideas of Cobden and Bright and ideologists such as Herbert Spencer and Samuel Smiles (whose book *Self Help* was republished recently with an interesting introduction by Sir Keith Joseph) dominated liberal thought.

These ideas involved a commitment to individualism, free markets, a negative conception of liberty as the absence of intentional coercion, freedom of contract, with the corollary that the inequality of power between capitalist and worker did not invalidate contract, and a view of the role of the state which saw

it as providing only the framework of law and order within which individuals could advance their interests in their own way. Citizenship was a strictly political notion to be restricted to civil and political rights. It did not entitle the citizen to any particular share of social resources, although of course, the ancestor of Mr Hurd's active citizen was encouraged, at least by some of these liberal thinkers, to be altruistic. However, there was no right to resources and if one was not chosen to be the beneficiary of altruistic concern then that was tough luck.

At least on the economic side, Mrs Thatcher's administrations have often been seen as embodying more of a commitment to such classical liberalism than to traditional Toryism. Indeed, Mr Parkinson might be helped to win his ideological battle on electricity privatization if he perused an essay on "The State and Electrical Distribution" by F. Beauchamp Gordon published in 1891 in *A Plea for Liberty* edited by Herbert Spencer.

However, by the 1880s a reaction had set in within Liberalism. The extreme individualism of the free-market was being questioned in the interests of community and cohesion; the unequal power between capitalist and worker was rejected as a basis for contract in the work of the philosopher T.H. Green; citizenship was coming to be seen as needing not only negative rights, but also resources, powers and opportunities; and — most of all — the negative conception of liberty was being challenged.

Richard Haldane, a philosopher and Liberal MP who later became Labour's first Lord

Chancellor, argued that "The Liberal Party has accomplished the main part of what it has to do in the way of establishing more freedom from interference for the individual. It now has to win him the condition of freedom in a more subtle and far-reaching sense of freedom." Freedom was to be understood not just as the absence of coercion but also as having power, some command over resources to make freedom more effective.

These ideas influenced legislation even in the early days of the growth of "new" liberalism. The Ground Game Act, The Employers' Liability Act and the Agricultural Holdings Acts of this period all represented a restriction of individual rights and free markets in favour of state intervention to produce a fairer relationship between parties to a contract. The Irish Land Act of 1881, with its idea of fair rent, was the ancestor of modern rent control, and it was such an affront to free-market liberals that it led to the founding of the Liberty and Property Defence League. Herbert Spencer claimed that in passing the Bill the Liberal majority had capitulated to a Tory form of collectivism. Indeed, so far had the process of "constructivist" legislation gone that just before his death Gladstone, who viewed the whole business with deep suspicion, wrote to Bryce that he was "fundamentally a dead man; one fundamentally a Peel, Cobden man."

With the benefit of hindsight we can see the important role which these ideas of positive freedom, the enabling state, the individual as part of a community, and social citizenship played in the development of

social liberalism, which in turn exercised such an influence on the Labour Party. It is to rethinking such ideas that socialists and social democrats are again turning. For example, positive freedom is defended in Roy Hattersley's *Choose Freedom* and Bryan Gould's *Freedom and Socialism* and is important in the party's policy review. Ideas about social citizenship are now central to Labour and SLD policy.

There is no reason to disparage this because it looks back to an earlier tradition which socialists and social democrats as well as liberals share. The Tories, after all, have rethought the basic assumptions of classical liberalism in the economic sphere and have developed radical policies within a traditional framework of ideas. There is no reason why current left-wing thinking cannot be as radical with social liberal ideas and roots. This tradition once got extreme *laissez-faire* views on the run, and with a more radical approach to individual freedom, rights, obligations and citizenship, together with a more limited role for the state and its bureaucrats and experts, it could do so again.

The tragedy is that the two radical movements — Labour and Liberal — which owe so much to arguments forged in debate a century ago should be fighting over their mutual heritage. Perhaps *Socialist*, the new magazine edited by Ben Pimlott which seeks to bring together like-minded socialists, social democrats and liberals, may help to rediscover and rethink this common radical heritage. The author is professor of politics at Southampton University.

NOV 14 ON THIS DAY 1930



With the passing of the Road Traffic Act 1930, the "years of innocence" for motorists came to an end. No longer were driving licences to be had on demand. Pointed questions were asked about such things as eyesight and whether the applicant had lost a hand or a foot. Even so, it was several years before new drivers had to pass a driving test.

STANDARD TESTS FOR DRIVERS

Definite dates have now been fixed for bringing into operation the various sections of the Road Traffic Act. Most of the provisions of Part I, including those for licensing drivers and those for careless and dangerous driving, will come into force on December 1, but the abolition of the speed limit for light cars and the new limits for heavier vehicles will not become operative until January 1. The reason for the latter date having been fixed is to allow the police authorities more time to organize mobile police units. Mr. Morrison, Minister of Transport, stated yesterday that he was anxious that the mobile police should be not merely a body of men engaged in catching and prosecuting motorists, but that they should be able to give help and advice where needed, in order that a high code of road conduct should be established.

On and after December 1 the old form of driver's licence, which was issued without question as to the physical fitness of the applicant, will cease to be issued, but it is important to remember that the old licences issued up to and including November 29 will be valid until their normal date of expiry, with certain exceptions. There will be no need therefore for motorists to apply at the end of this month for new licences, since their present licences will carry them on until the date of their renewal. But no one under the age of 16 will be allowed to drive a motor cycle after November 30, unless he satisfies the licensing authority that he was in the habit of driving a motor cycle for the six months before January 1, 1930, in which case he must surrender his old licence on December 1 and obtain a new one. Similarly, a person under the age of 21 will not be allowed to drive a heavy vehicle unless the same conditions obtain.

To obtain a driving licence under the new Act a new form of application, known as "DLF", will have to be filled up. Sections A and B of this form, providing for the formal application and for particulars of name and address, are similar to the forms under the old Act. Section C, however, is entirely new, and is a declaration as to the physical fitness of the applicant. Three specific questions have to be answered. The first question is: "Do you suffer from epilepsy or sudden attacks of disabling giddiness or fainting?" An applicant who answers "Yes" to this is debarred from obtaining a licence. Applicants who are in any doubt as to their answer are urged to seek medical advice, as the penalties for making a false declaration are severe. The second question is: "Are you able to read at a distance of 25 yards in good daylight (with glasses, if worn) a motor car number plate containing six letters and figures?" A negative answer to this is also a bar to obtaining a licence. Here, again, applicants in doubt should take advice, as the use of glasses may enable them to obtain the correct standard.

Part II of the Act, which relates to compulsory insurance against third party risks, will become operative on January 1, and the draft regulations have been completed. They will be ready in their final form next month.

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PEACE AND THE PLO

The announcement in Algiers yesterday that the Palestine Liberation Organization's leadership accepts UN resolutions 242 and 338 as the basis for an international peace conference removes, on the face of it, a major stumbling block to peace in the Middle East. It is the PLO's long-standing refusal to endorse resolution 242, in particular, with its reference to the right of all states in the region to live within secure and recognized boundaries, which has confirmed Israeli and western suspicions that its ultimate goal is the elimination of Israel.

If the leadership's decision is accepted today by the extraordinary session of the Palestinian National Council, the PLO's parliament, it will go some way towards creating a new political identity for the organization. It will also meet a major condition set by the US for a political solution to the Palestinian problem. This does not necessarily mean, however, that Mr Arafat's claim that the Palestinians' 40-year struggle for a homeland is in its final stage.

Mr Arafat has devoted all his considerable political skills to securing acceptance of 242, knowing it to be the PLO's only chance of establishing internationally accepted credentials. To sell it to Palestinian radicals, he opened the session with a fiery speech insisting that the PLO seeks "only" to raise its flag over "the national soil from which we were expelled" — which to Palestinians means the whole of pre-1948 Palestine.

The decision is also, typically, wrapped in a certain ambiguity: because 242 and 338 will only be accepted in the context of an international peace conference, the PLO may yet avoid a final commitment until it is seated at a table. Since Israel would never agree to a conference without prior guarantees that its right to exist had been recognized by all parties, we may yet be looking at another display of PLO shadow-boxing.

Even without this caveat, Mr Arafat now faces the much more difficult task of convincing the outside world not only that this commitment is genuinely supported by the majority of Palestinians, but that the PLO has developed the degree of political coherence necessary to coerce the Palestinian rejectionist minority into complying with the new strategy.

That must still be in doubt. President Assad of Syria, who is implacably opposed to Mr Arafat's parallel plan, also expected to be endorsed tomorrow, to declare an independent Palestinian state and to form a provisional government, persuaded at least 40 Damascus-based Palestinian delegates to boycott the parliament. The most important radical PLO grouping present, Mr George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine,

opposed yesterday's decision although, under pressure from the Soviet Union, it agreed to accept the majority vote.

If the PNC meeting succeeds in breaking genuinely new ground, it will be the result of months of internal wrangling and external manoeuvring. The PLO has been forced into a reappraisal of its status and prospects by many pressures: the uprising in the West Bank, a hardening of opinion in Israel, the Soviet Union's firm advice that the PLO must recognize Israel and, above all, King Hussein's decision in July to sever Jordan's links with the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

By declaring that "Jordan is not Palestine" and effectively offering the West Bank to the PLO to claim as its own, King Hussein compelled Mr Arafat to unite his notoriously fissiparous movement behind a basis for claiming statehood, and a programme for achieving it. The largely symbolic declaration of Palestinian independence now proposed is a response to the first challenge. Whether even explicit acceptance of resolution 242 meets the requirements of the second depends on a further question which remains open.

Israel seeks not only secure borders, but security in the much broader sense of genuinely peaceful coexistence. A Palestinian state which seemed likely to be the stalking horse for PLO irreverence would be rejected by Israeli voters. Formal acceptance of 242 would reassure them only if Mr Arafat is wholly, and uncharacteristically, unambiguous about his readiness to recognize Israel and renounce violence.

Earlier this month, he responded to a question by *Time* magazine on mutual recognition with the words: "Between two states, Israel has to ask this from the Palestinian state. It is not right to ask it from the PLO." Today's decision in Algiers will have to give a different answer to that question. He has never rejected the use of violence within the occupied territories.

Mr Arafat would appear none the less to have gone some way in Algiers towards meeting the incompatible objectives of reconciling the different factions of the PLO and establishing the outline of a credible negotiating position.

Had he failed, this parliament would have represented no more than another incident in the miserable chronology of missed opportunities in the Middle East. To have made progress amid the bitterness and excitement of the *intifada* will be a considerable achievement. It remains to be seen whether the Algiers declaration is also the watershed for the Palestinian people.

TERROR IN SRI LANKA

Sri Lanka today is a country held hostage by a tiny group of well-organized fanatics whose aim is the overthrow of democracy. The central committee, politburo and active cells of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna, or People's Liberation Front, probably number only 2,000 members. But it rules by fear so effectively that strikes "ordered" by the JVP silence the streets by day as surely as the curfew empties them by night. Essential services are paralysed and democracy itself is threatened. Yesterday Mr Rohana Wijeweera, the JVP's Marxist leader, announced that the strikes and assassinations will end only when it takes power at the head of a "people's government".

President Junius Jayewardene's government, still struggling to patch the wounds created by the bloody separatist campaign by Tamil guerrillas in the north and east, is now so far from controlling the country as a whole that it may be forced to postpone the presidential elections scheduled for December 19. The JVP has told voters to stay away from the polls, threatening to kill those who ignore its instructions. With 600 political assassinations to its credit in the last 15 months, it will be taken seriously.

The JVP is an old enemy. Its armed insurrection was decisively suppressed by Mrs Bandaranaike in 1971. It has risen again only in the past 18 months. Its resurgence owes much to political short-sightedness on the part of Sri Lanka's political leaders. Mr Wijeweera, granted amnesty by President Jayewardene in 1978, contested local and presidential elections in the early 1980s and would have probably stayed within the democratic process had the president not decided to prolong his two-thirds parliamentary majority by the simple expedient of extending the parliament's term by six years. Mr Wijeweera denounced this as illegal.

The following year, the government blamed the JVP — incorrectly — for anti-Tamil riots and banned the party. Underground again, Mr Wijeweera reverted to the politics of the gun.

Yet it was, ironically, President Jayewardene's most courageous political act, the signing of the accord with India in July 1987 aimed at resolving the Tamil question, which gave Mr Wijeweera the mass support he needed to stage a comeback.

The JVP, exploiting Sinhalese anti-Tamil chauvinism, revived its spirit among students, parts of the military and radical members of the Buddhist clergy. Denouncing the accord as a betrayal of Sri Lankan nationalism, it embarked on the current campaign of bombing, political assassinations and intimidation.

The JVP's official demands include the resignation of the president, the dissolution of parliament, the scrapping of the accord and the departure of Indian peace-keeping troops. Its real agenda is simpler: to gain power by discrediting the democratic process. Intimidation would appear to be working: the JVP's old nemesis, Mrs Bandaranaike, sought earlier this month to form an electoral alliance with it; and President Jayewardene has bowed to Sri Lankan nationalism in selecting as his party's presidential candidate the prime minister, Ranasinghe Premadasa, a declared opponent of the 1987 accord.

The JVP's terror tactics must be firmly resisted. What is needed is the early dissolution of parliament and the formation of an all-party coalition to form a common democratic front against the JVP. The alternative is, at best, renewal of inter-communal conflict which has already destroyed President Jayewardene's efforts to put Sri Lanka on an investment-led growth path. At worst it is anarchy.

PATIENT TREATMENT

An article in this year's Christmas issue of the *British Medical Journal* should evoke a warm response from many patients. It will demand that doctors address them properly.

Professor Hugh Dudley and a junior colleague from St Mary's Hospital, London, want to end professional over-familiarity. This includes references to "bloke" or "chap" within earshot of the man being treated — or addressing a mother in jocular terms as "mum". They believe that adult patients should be called by their proper titles.

Few habits so affront this diffident nation as the assumption of first-name terms by perfect strangers. When in hospital, or a doctor's surgery, the practice can cause people actual distress. This is largely because familiarity still tends, in this country, to reflect distinctions in rank or class.

The squire might call his gardener "Fred", but would be nonplussed if the gardener called him "Nigel". The general might address his ADC as "James" but expects to be known as "General" or "Sir". The Army has developed a working compromise, whereby senior officers are referred to by rank and first name.

A doctor who calls his patient, uninvited, by his or her first name is, therefore, assuming a superior position. If he were to suggest that the patient reciprocate, he would go some way towards rectifying the fault. But most expect to be known as "Doctor" in reply.

No doubt the show of intimacy is a well-meant effort to put patients at their ease. Hospital nurses who these days increasingly do the same are not trying to sound superior or unkind. But if so, they should know that the theory does not work.

There is a sound argument, which is supported by the Patients' Association, for bridging the gap between the medical profession and the people in its care. But the artificial and unequal chumminess which has become the rule in many hospitals can have the opposite effect to that intended. Elderly people in particular (and elderly women most of all) feel they are being patronized when addressed, say, as "Arthur" or "Jane" or simply "granny" by a doctor who is less than half their age. It simply makes the doctor seem condescending. This might not be true of every individual. No doubt there are some who find it reassuring. But most people, particularly the elderly and the poor, are conscious of their dignity and privacy. They expect and deserve the courtesy of their title.

This is not the most glaring fault in the NHS. But it is certainly one of the easiest to rectify. The British Medical Association and the Royal College of Nursing should issue guidelines to their members, advising them of patients' sensitivities. As Professor Dudley's forthcoming article suggests, there are some who are already conscious of the need.

For and against student loans

From Ms Kate Maguire

Sir, As one of seven children brought up in one of Glasgow's worst council housing estates, I read with interest your reports (November 9) on Mr Baker's proposals to introduce a partial loans scheme for students.

Thanks to the availability of full grants, without which my parents' vision would have remained only a vision, we are now seven graduates — a writer, a lecturer in Russian language and linguistics, a lecturer in international relations, a trades union lawyer, a tax lawyer, a barrister and an archaeologist. We pay our taxes and I hope generally contribute to making our society healthier and more enlightened.

Two of us were of an age to thoroughly enjoy and benefit from our student days in the permissive 1960s, and it is because of those experiences that our children are being brought up with ideals, disciplines and moral guidance, tempered with understanding and communication. I therefore wholeheartedly support Mr Jack Straw's comments that those who benefited from the grant system should not deny it to others.

Yours faithfully,
KATE MAGUIRE,
53 Lavender Road, W13,
November 9.

From Mr Simon C. Parry-Wingfield

Sir, I fail to understand why there is such opposition to the proposed system of student loans. Not only is there overwhelming evidence from other Western countries, such as the United States of America, that the availability of loans opens up further education to a wider proportion of the population than are currently able to benefit from it. But also, I, as a student, would welcome the opportunity to enjoy some of my future earning potential now rather than to have to wait until I have too many commitments and pressures to do so.

It is a pity that when time is a relatively plentiful resource I am constrained from broadening my knowledge and understanding of the world either because of a lack of money or because I have to work to earn money to support myself through the next year.

May I also point out that the size of loan the Government is considering is small relative to the average graduate starting salary. Furthermore the evidence from America suggests that starting salaries will rise to take account of student debt. Thus the burden passes, at least in part, from the student to the employer.

Yours faithfully,
S. C. PARRY-WINGFIELD,
Queens' College, Cambridge,
November 10.

From Mr David Holbrook

Sir, Whenever certain Government measures are announced the special services professionals report from the field that many people will be worse off. Yet the language used seems to imply quite the reverse, as with "targeting" and "streamlining".

Take, for instance, the new proposals for student loans. Clearly, students will in future get less support, even though they are by no means well off now, and they will leave college with a burden of debt, intended to impel them into taking employment by which they can pay it off. Yet this is called "modernising" and "streamlining".

I imagine a poor OAP, or student, or one-parent mother looking rueful, only to be assured that he or she has been "targeted", "streamlined", or "topped up".

What shall we call this new kind of talk which presumably ministers have learnt from their PR advisers — "Cheatspeak"? Yours &c,
DAVID HOLBROOK,
Deamore Lodge,
Brunswick Gardens,
Cambridge,
November 11.

Paintings on loan

From Mr Andrew Wilton

Sir, As co-selector of the current exhibition of British art at the Prado, I am sorry that Robert Medley, a Royal Academician and member of the Turner Society, should have found no "well-known masterpieces" among the Turners in the show (letter, November 3). Does he really believe that Turner's greatness can only be demonstrated by "Rain", "Steam and Speed" or "The Fighting Temeraire", or that the views singled out by Mr Joll (November 5) are not of supreme quality?

Mr Medley further suggests that the exhibition is narrow in its scope. On the contrary, as inspection of the catalogue will confirm, there is hardly an aspect of British art of the period that is not represented — genre, neo-classicism, the sublime, portraiture of every kind (not just "country-house"), city landscapes, classical idylls, Dutch-inspired picturesque, *plein-air* studies, romantic mysticism, a dazzling array of major Constables.

Sporting subjects are of course also represented; but works like Stubbs' "Gimcrack" and "Grove-venor Hunt", or Raeburn's "Ferguson of Raith Brothers", are

Precedents for means-tested benefits

From Professor C. D. Harbury

Sir, The case for means-testing of benefits by "targeting" has always been perfectly respectable, though such policies are rarely implemented. Suddenly it has leaped to prominence and become a matter of major political controversy. One might wonder why the change.

The answer, I suggest, is simply that the degree of progressivity in the income tax in this country, never very great, is at an historical low. No one was worked up about the "injustice" and inefficiency of giving benefits to the relatively rich, when those benefits were significantly more steeply taxed than were those to the "needy".

One hardly needs to believe that the old top rates of income tax were sensible. (I never met anyone who defended the 98 per cent.) But to many people, natural justice seems to require a gradually marginal tax rate — not one which leaps in at 25 per cent as soon as one crosses the threshold, and jumps only once, to 40 per cent, for a very small minority of taxpayers.

Had we a gradually progressive, rather than an essentially proportional, income tax, we would not be so worried about the universality of a few really basic benefits; which system avoids not only subjecting people (often the most needy) from the indignity of means-testing, but also incurring the bureaucratic costs of administering the tests.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN HARBURY,
Bridge House, The Street,
Pakenham, Suffolk,
November 9.

From Dr R. L. Marshall

Sir, Mr Lawson's statement to Parliament (report, November 8) is presumably the authorised (if not a revised) version of his position: "a pledge to maintain the value of the retirement pension in real terms... but some (pensioners) are less well off. We are seeking a way to help them".

How can he, and we, concentrate on important questions which arise from that definition?

Cost of the NHS

From Mr Malcolm Rees

Sir, The welcome given to the "£2 billion extra" for the NHS (report, November 2) may not last very long. The actual difference between the 1988-89 estimate and the planned total for 1989-90 is £1.4 billion, an increase of 6.5 per cent. The additional income from charges should put the increase to just over 7 per cent, which may be just about the rate of inflation next year.

An additional £300 million is to come from reducing employer superannuation contributions, a reduction which is, arguably, being made partly at the expense of the NHS staff and £150 million from "cost improvements", though where the latter are to be found is not known, for most obvious ways for saving NHS money have already been tried.

It would seem therefore that the NHS will get very little additional real funding next year. Real wages and salaries in the NHS, with the

exception of nurses consequent upon the recent pay award (and then not all of them), have actually been stable or falling, at a time when private sector remuneration has been rising rapidly.

Some time in the near future the pay given to such essential staff as medical secretaries, medical laboratory scientists, physicists, pharmacists and many others must be increased if the service is not to decline. Presently many staff remain in the service from a sense of duty, for they could obtain far better salaries in the private sector.

Such a situation cannot go on for ever, and when it is rectified substantial increases in NHS allocations will be needed. Such increases, given current inflation levels, will not have been provided in the autumn statement.

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM REES,
(Consultant economist),
St Stephens Hospital,
Fulham Road, SW10,
November 4.

From Mr P. G. Laws

Sir, With reference to Dennis Harrison's letter (November 8), it is time to revive the system advocated by the Government as far back as 1933, and reiterated in 1966, under which lay committees are advised by a panel of local architects.

This was a well-considered method, and the fact of having the considered judgement of a professional panel was of great benefit not only to planning officers but also to their committees. Many times a forward-looking design, sometimes controversial, was protected from ill-informed comment leading to outright rejection.

Of course planning authorities should have their "teeth" restored in this important field of environmental control. Yours faithfully,
PETER LAWS,
21 Lidden Road,
Penzance,
Cornwall,
November 8.

From Mr J. M. Johns

Sir, Dr R. G. Lambert (October 28) is quite right in his observations about the stressful effects of moving house, but may I remind him that for over 200 years a similar experience has faced one small section of society.

I refer to the itinerant ministry of the Methodist Church, by which the ministers and their families were required to move on every three years — without the financial carrot offered by the tycoons of commerce and industry today.

My own experience meant that, by 21 years of age, I had lived in no fewer than nine manse and my secondary phase of education, between 11 and 18 years of age, was divided between three grammar schools.

To be fair to Methodism, it did provide other influences and support to bar the way towards the broken home. Nevertheless, the Reverend John Wesley has much to answer for!

Yours faithfully,
J. M. JOHNS,
Grays Orchard,
Thurston,
Rugby, Warwickshire,
October 31.

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From Mr K. R. Stevens

Sir, Regarding today's letter (November 7) from Mr M. T. Phillips, as I sit bemused amidst a variety of domestic electronic gadgetry operated with consummate ease by my children, I am prompted to offer: "It's so hard only a child can do it".

Yours sincerely,
K. R. STEVENS,
29 Lea Road,
Sonning Common,
Reading,
Berkshire,
November 7.

From Mr W. Woodruff

Sir, How about, it never rains but it... pollutes; the road to hell is paved with... "temporary surface"; all roads lead to a contrail.

Football's future left in doubt

From Mr Tom Pendry, MP for Stalybridge and Hyde (Labour)

Sir, Your leading article, "Sporting checkpoint" (November 10) simply fails to understand football in 1988. Since the tragedy at Heston the football authorities have taken many steps to tackle the problem of hooliganism which has attached itself to soccer. Segregation, closed-circuit television cameras, family areas, and in particular the Government-inspired voluntary membership areas have all contributed to virtually trouble-free football grounds, as recent figures have shown.

All the progress made is now threatened by the "identity card" proposal. Instead of building upon the clubs' own membership schemes the Government intends to impose identity cards upon all supporters. New problems will be created (such as supporters left queuing while the match kicks off and segregation of fans from many different clubs within one ground), not the least of which will be financial impoverishment for dozens of clubs.

The Government has stated that football must fund the cost of identity cards and computer equipment for 92 League clubs. Yet at the same time the Government takes 42.5 per cent of the football pools' turnover in tax, some 10 years after the Rothschild Royal Commission on Gambling recommended that the tax be cut from 40 per cent to 37 per cent. Thatcherite principles of recycling money within an industry clearly do not apply where football is concerned.

To really tackle hooliganism, the Government should encourage each club to develop solutions which suit its local needs because no two clubs have similar problems. Both Tottenham Hotspur and Halifax Town, for example, face difficulties distinct from those at Luton Town.

An identity card system may appear to get to grips with football, but all it will achieve is to kill off whole areas of our national game. Yours sincerely,
TOM PENDRY (Chairman, All-Party Football Committee),
House of Commons,
November 10.

The price of war

From Mr T. H. Hughes-Davies

Sir, Brigadier Collingridge, whose obituary you publish today (November 10), was a survivor not only of Gallipoli but also of possibly the hardest-hit generation of all. Thirty-nine boys entered school with him in May, 1908. Two died before the war, and one entered Holy Orders.

Of the 36 who served, one of them in the ranks, 17 were killed. A further boy died as a Japanese prisoner in the Second World War. One, who had been senior prefect, was awarded the Victoria Cross, and seven the MC. Earlier and later terms suffered grievously, but none so greatly as the brigadier.

Yours sincerely,
T. H. HUGHES-DAVIES,
Slades Cottage,
Breamore,
Fordingbridge,
Hampshire,
November 10.

From Mr G. W. Staple

Sir, In his letter (November 4) the Chairman of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board stated that, following the death of Sir Anthony Berry as a result of the Brighton bomb, the award to the family was much larger than the figure of £24,000 mentioned in the House of Commons.

As the solicitor responsible for pursuing the claim on behalf of the family, I have been asked to write to you to clarify the position, which is as follows.

Lady Berry herself received £24,682 in respect of the death of her husband. As a separate matter, she also received £10,189 in respect of her own injuries and loss of earnings. Her two teenage children each received £7,500 in respect of the death of their father. Yours faithfully,
GEORGE STAPLE,
Clifford Chance,
Blackfriars House,
19 New Bridge Street, E.C.4,
November 11.

Ellipsis slip

From Mr K. R. Stevens

Sir, Regarding today's letter (November 7) from Mr M. T. Phillips, as I sit bemused amidst a variety of domestic electronic gadgetry operated with consummate ease by my children, I am prompted to offer: "It's so hard only a child can do it".

Yours sincerely,
K. R. STEVENS,
29 Lea Road,
Sonning Common,
Reading,
Berkshire,
November 7.

JP 11 1550

THE ARTS

Dreams, debts and the director

Simon Banner meets Francis Coppola, maker of *The Godfather* and *Apocalypse Now*, and whose latest film, *Tucker*, has restored his fortunes after the collapse of his studio

Stroking his greying beard, Francis Coppola says: "What doesn't kill you, only makes you stronger." The line, in fact, is Nietzsche's, but Coppola has good reason for making it his own. At 49, and with 17 films to his name, he has experienced quite as much failure and misfortune as success.

After the early glory of *The Godfather* and its Oscar-laden sequel, he embarked on the ambitious *Apocalypse Now*, which became a very by-word for profligacy and miscalculation. Hard on its heels, with dreams of single-handedly revolutionizing the film business, he established his own studio, Zoetrope, only to see it sink along with his cherished musical *One From The Heart*.

Left with personal debts of more than \$20 million, he has, since that time, worked as a director-for-hire on a string of movies, among them *The Cotton Club*, *The Outsiders* and *Gardens of Stone*, which have, for the most part, found neither critical nor commercial favour. Some, like the wondrous *Rumble Fish* for example, undoubtedly deserved better, but even Coppola himself dismisses his one outstanding commercial success of the period, *Peggy Sue Got Married*, as "something of a cliché".

He has however, at long last bounced back to both form and favour with *Tucker*, a surprisingly upbeat fable of American life which has won considerable praise and attracted large audiences in the United States and which opens this week in London. Subtitled *The Man And His Dream*, the film tells the story of Preston Tucker (played by Jeff Bridges), an American car-maker of the 1940s who set out to produce "the car of tomorrow" and, in so doing, break the monopoly of the automobile giants of Detroit.

The Tucker Torpedo, as the car was dubbed, featured such innovation as a centre headlight, disc brakes, aerodynamic styling and fuel injection. Yet despite taking over an abandoned mili-

tary plant outside Chicago and raising around \$20 million from small investors, Preston Tucker only made 50 of his revolutionary vehicles before his company foundered amid charges of fraud (of which he was subsequently acquitted).

Francis Coppola's interest in Preston Tucker goes back to 1948 when, as a small boy, he was dazzled by a prototype of the new car at an automobile show. His father, equally impressed, invested \$5000 in Tucker's company and planned to buy one of the cars as soon as they went into production. Every day Francis would ask his father "When's the Tucker gonna come?" His bewilderment at being told the Tucker would never arrive remains a vivid memory.

"My father said something like 'They're not going to make it. They don't want him to make it. They say he was a crook'. But I just couldn't work out why they wouldn't want him to make it. To me it seemed like such a good thing."

As a college student Coppola planned to write a play about Tucker, which would have been "an angry expose of American business". Later he imagined turning the story into a musical and even hired Leonard Bernstein to begin work on it. Later still he thought a more "Capra-esque" film would be in order, and asked Frank Capra himself if he would produce it.

He describes the film as eventually come up with as "all three projects put together", though it is really not the baroque amalgam which that suggests. Coppola's often breath-taking stylistic flourishes aside, it is a simple tale which has been cleverly wrought into something quite as cheering as Capra might have wished for. Tucker's schemes may have collapsed about his head, the message seems to be, but at least he had a dream, and his dream survives.

As George Lucas, the producer of the film, puts it, "*Tucker* is about turning dreams into reality, which is something film makers do all the time". According



No bankrupt he: Francis Coppola has kept control of his films by hiring himself out to pay off personal debts of \$20 million

to Coppola himself "*Tucker* is a story about a fellow who has a better idea and a better way of doing things. The system beats him, but it doesn't crush his spirit. That spirit lives on."

Comparisons between Tucker and Coppola, and in particular his experience with his own doomed enterprise, and indeed, one American magazine went so far as to head their article about *Tucker* with the question "Is it a man? Is it a movie? Or is it a metaphor?" Like the hero of his film, Coppola planned to break the power of the ruling giants of his particular industry with the use of

revolutionary technology. Like Tucker, some say, he was also fearfully undercapitalized and over-ambitious.

Coppola himself resists such interpretations by commenting that "pretty much every film" tells you a lot about the person who made it. "When I made *The Godfather*, people would say, 'Wow, don't you find it unusual, you being a young Italian guy, the head of your family, a patron to other film makers...'. When I made *Apocalypse Now*, people said I was turning into a Kurtz."

"Certainly I was sure my little Zoetrope was going to work, just like Tucker was sure his car was going to

work, but what people are inclined to overlook is that when I first selected the Tucker story so many years ago, I didn't know that I was going to lose my studio. In fact, it's more a case of my life reflecting my movies rather than my movies reflecting my life. When I was making *Gardens of Stone* my son died in an accident on the very same day as I was shooting a scene about someone losing a son. I found that very scary."

Gardens of Stone was one of the movies Coppola made in his phase as a Hollywood hired gun, pretty much shooting whatever the studio bosses asked him to, and working hard to pay

off Zoetrope's enormous debts. Against the advice of many in the industry he refused to declare himself bankrupt.

"I had a choice," he says. "I owned all my movies, which is a pretty unusual thing, and my own house, and if I'd gone bankrupt I'd have lost both. I knew that I'd get so angry seeing *Apocalypse Now* on television thinking that I used to own it, so I made the decision to try and pay everything back. It took me seven years and it was very hard work, but I still feel relatively young and robust."

He still looks healthy in a corpulent sort of way (his chin connects seamlessly with his chest) and insists he has no regrets about any of the pictures he has worked on over the last few years, not even the Michael Jackson short, *Captain EO*, which he made for Disney.

"Put it like this," he says. "I never went out with any girl I didn't like. I mean, I used all those films after *One From The Heart* to experiment with style and there's something I like about each."

"The point is that I'm the sort of person who has always looked to himself to be his own patron. If I wanted to make a \$30 million picture, rather than find someone to invest in it, I always thought I should go and make \$30 million and, when I'd made it, make the picture. After *One From The Heart* and what happened with Zoetrope I no longer had the ability to finance my own films for a while, so by simple logic, I could no longer imagine ambitious films."

His debts behind him, he is free to imagine ambitious films once again. He is currently working on a script for a film provisionally entitled *Secret Journal*. "It's basically the Catline conspiracy," he says, "but set in modern New York."

It is scheduled to begin production in Rome and New York sometime next year, though the projected budget of around \$50 million could well prove a stumbling block. "It's a big project," Coppola agrees "and I have to admit that I've pretty much accepted that I may never make it. In many ways, though, I believe that the idea is more important than the finished product. I know Tucker would agree with me on that."

● *Tucker opens at the Odeon Haymarket on Friday November 18*

Vaguely discreet

TELEVISION

You could tell that Charles did not stand a chance from the moment of his birth. Princess Elizabeth, announced the Palace, "has been safely delivered of a prince". Not a boy, not a girl, but a prince. From that it was bound to be a spill all the way, and the message of Anthony Holden's *Charles at Forty* (ITV) was that Charles is still finding it hard going being a prince, and is likely to for a few decades yet.

The reverential tone of this television biography contrasted somewhat violently with the more puritan tone of the same author's new book featuring the same central character. For television we had the fanfare, the investitures and the family snap-shots. We confronted the dreaded business of talking to plants: "an obvious joke", but here given quite as much mileage as the tabloids gave it; but there was not a word about supposed marital tensions, not a word about Klosters, which filled a good deal of space in the book and, indeed, nothing which might cause a shadow to fall over the Prince's heroic achievement as a "major force for good".

Revelations in telly biography were, therefore, few. There was some fine old television footage and hilarious film with Charles

playing the "Goon" to the tilt. Old schoolmasters and Cambridge chums were discreet, and there was nothing of what one wanted to know from the author's much vaunted connections: how Charles organizes his life, the problems of his press relations, how he decides to take up causes and how they are promoted to him. Where was Rod Hackney, or Laurens van der Post? We were left with a slightly tongue-in-cheek portrait of Charles "the glorified social worker", and far too little to account for and justify it.

Another eager, vague idealist appeared an hour later on *Visions of Britain* (BBC 2). Jonathan Porritt, of Friends of the Earth, put together a manifesto which must have alienated most sympathetic viewers immediately, with a put-down of the English village. He then proceeded, in wave upon wave of deadening good sense, to analyse EEC farming subsidies and the appeals mechanism for planning permissions. He also suggested a limited dismantling of the Green Belt, a position too reasonable to be likely to succeed.

Besides their idealism, Porritt and Charles have in common an admiration for classical architectural schemes, by John Simpson, which are highly unlikely to be built.

William Holmes

Assurance and imagination

LPO/Solti Festival Hall

Three-quarters of the way through their Solti/Bartók series, the London Philharmonic gave a concert which may well be remembered as the crowning glory of them all. Solti's baton in the *The Miraculous Mandarin* acted as a whiplash on the audience, and indeed on the orchestra. If anyone needed lessons in minimalism as drama, then this narratively lurid yet deceptively finely crafted "pantomime" provides them.

Solti's skill lay in the relaxation

born of total assurance and authority which undergirded the tense foreground activity. The same

CONCERTS



Whiplash effect: Sir Georg Solti quality distinguished the *Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta* later in the evening: the rhythmic

muscle of the finale was never activated by the short cut of surface accent. And in the slow movement it was not, for once, the pungent nocturnal orchestration which held the attention so much as sudden intake and explosive release of breath in Solti's brilliantly imaginative pacing. Both works provided an ideal setting for the rarer and slyer Piano Concerto No 3. Bartók's last completed work, spare, clear, sure and light of touch, is far too seldom programmed. Dezső Ránki found its scale and tone of voice exactly in the loose-limbed, ringing elegance of the first movement, the chased chorale of the second, and the teasing Rondo of the final Magyar dance.

Hilary Finch

Full-blooded perfect pianism

Maurizio Pollini Festival Hall/Radio 3

Perfection. But perfection that is vigorous and robust and immensely wide-ranging. Maurizio Pollini's recital last Thursday, the second of a matched pair focused on Schoenberg, was magnificent in every respect, from its programming down to the fine details of this pianist's musicianship: the command of a huge power that never slips over into a performer's gesturing, the astonishing use of the pedals to select and savour resonances, the exact judgement that becomes almost superhuman when so much is placed at risk: above all the retraction of personal

intention so that the music can become itself, in a more intense, vivid, full and grandiose manner than one thought possible.

In the first half Brahms's Op.119 pieces — their dissonances given full value, and their fantasias too — proved a very apt prelude to a sequence of 13 Schoenberg pieces: his opp.19, 23 and 33. It is impossible to record everything Pollini, i.e. Schoenberg, achieved here: let me note the weird scherzando exuberance of the fourth op.19 piece, the spiralling and clear, moonlit events of the middle piece of op.23.

In the second half, Stockhausen's fifth and ninth piano pieces were forged with the same selfless will, and heard as perhaps never before. The head-banging

dire awesomeness of the opening of Piano Piece IX was all the greater for Pollini's control of the diminuendo through so many repetitions of the same chord: after this image of obsession the rising scale was magically fresh, and the piece evolved as a dialogue of the automatic and the new, while also taking note, in its use of the treble especially, of the new automatism of electronic music.

And then how spectacularly right it was to turn to another work in which repetition is the converse of, and the springboard for, lyrical initiatives: Beethoven's "Appassionata" sonata. History dissolved; Beethoven, as much as Stockhausen, was happening now.

P.G.

Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie/ Metzmaier St Martin-in-the-Fields

The problem with the Armistice Festival, I suppose, is that it so constrains the works it seeks to present, makes them relics of the slaughtered, and confuses the notion of an artistic event with that of a Remembrance ceremony. The Armistice Day Concert was a case in point, though in the case of two of the three composers represented, the works were certainly weak enough to stand, even to need, special pleading.

Frederick Septimus Kelly's *Elgy in memoriam Rupert Brooke* was also the only piece to profit from the waxy church acoustic, being a modal processional for strings, in the shadow of Vaughan Williams's *Tallis Fantasia*.

BBC PO/Knussen Free Trade Hall, Manchester

Oliver Knussen's almost reluctant approach to conducting seems ideally calculated to bringing the best out of the BBC Philharmonic. He was perhaps an apt dedicatee for Robin Holloway's angry and intensely complex Second Concerto for Orchestra. Knussen challenged the orchestra to virtuosic extremes: if certain details were predictably rough, many more came across with a startling brilliance, in which the percussion section played a particularly impressive role.

Knussen also brought Toru Takemitsu's recent *Twilight by Twilight*, a delicately coloured memorial to that most delicate of all

After this came a group of six orchestral songs by the Finnish composer Toivo Kuula, ranging from simple, sentimental lyrics through an obsession with what was surely only by coincidence an Elgar quote (in "Kohtalo") to a short vocal symphonic poem à la Richard Strauss.

The best was kept to last: Rudi Stephan's music has become modestly familiar, thanks to a recent record, and here we heard two performances to reinforce the image of a composer who might, had he not died at the age of 28, have distilled something individual from the seething world of Scriabin, Schreker and early Schoenberg. Christian Altenburger gave a strong-boned performance of the Music for Violin and Orchestra, and Rodney Gilby was the plausible, open-toned baritone in the weird *Liebeszauber*.

Paul Griffiths

composers, Morton Feldman. Like Holloway's work, it owes much to earlier styles. But whereas Holloway just opposes such unlikely bed-fellows as Chopin, Stravinsky, Parry and Debussy, making them fight one another "with Parry the improbable winner", Takemitsu weaves his seamless texture with a kind of Tristanesque language, as though heard through the ears of Debussy. But Knussen bowed his glossy with what may be the first complete performance ever of seven arrangements for large orchestra, made in 1950 by Percy Grainger. *The Lushness of Air* and *Early One Morning* seemed complete duds. But some of the others — notably *Molly on the Shore* and *Country Gardens* — fairly scintillated with bizarre and exciting orchestral colours.

Duncan Fallows

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Your guide to perestroika

RADIO

The current series of Reith Lectures (Radio 4, Tuesdays; Radio 3, Sundays) could hardly be more timely. Not that the title, *The Rediscovery of Politics*, tells you a great deal; it is left to the first few words of the *Radio Times* billing to attract the attention: "Six talks on authority, culture and community in the USSR". Surely more people today must be watching the progress of events inside the Soviet Union than at any time since the Revolution.

The lecturer, Geoffrey Hosking, Professor of Russian History at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, has begun by identifying some of the immense obstacles to any programme of reform. The Soviet people, he told us, had been traumatized by their recent past and notably by Stalin's dreadful hand in it; they have learned to divide an intense private life from a conformist public one; they will therefore support reform if it sticks, but will not get behind it until it does, even if that means that in the end it does not.

Professor Hosking who, rare among Reith lecturers, is actually agreeable to listen to, threw a fascinating sidelight on one aspect of Soviet experience: although students claimed to be bored to death by the unending political indoctrination fed to them and

would write letters or read or knit while it was happening, the messages still went in and have formed enduring patterns of thought. I remember being bored rigid at school by Scripture, but it went in deep. Could boredom be a precondition to certain sorts of learning?

One message that has never got home to the arts bosses of this country is the unique and powerful quality of radio as a medium for drama — and this in spite of the fact that they give every indication of being bored stiff by it. In *An Utterly Different Experience* (Radio 4, Tuesday) Leonard Pierce assembled a small but formidable group (writers Shirley Gee, Anthony Minghella, John Mortimer, William Trevor; actor John Moffat; critic Gillian Reynolds; Deputy Head of BBC Radio Drama Richard Imison, who also produced the programme) in an attempt to convey what the quality of radio might be.

For instance, there are impressions impossible to transmit through other media — Reynolds spoke of the way in which many plays about Northern Ireland have opened up our understanding of that conflict in a manner that is

both beyond the capacity of a documentary and different from anything a visual medium can do.

To all the writers and the actor, radio offered opportunities for expression not available elsewhere. But I think it was Gillian Reynolds again who touched on what is at one and the same time its most elusive yet its most telling strength when she spoke of "the dreaming side of radio". The programme added up to a considerable testimonial, whose one shortcoming was none of its fault: that those most in need of hearing it almost certainly did not do so.

There is no avoiding the Seven Deadly Sins, least of all of late on radio. First the *Radio 4 Generation* wrangled over them and now on Radio 2 in The Seven Deadly Singsongs (Tuesdays, producer, Barbara Page) Russell Davies is presenting a series of anthologies, one sin per week. If it's a choice between the *Radio 4 Generation* and Mr Davies, I know who has my ear every time and it is not opinionated youth. The contributors to Last included Julie Andrews, Jaye Mansfield (mouthing Herrick), John Betjeman (to jazz) and Peter Porter (solo). This was no job lot of songs casually strung together, but the start of what should be a first-class entertainment.

David Wade

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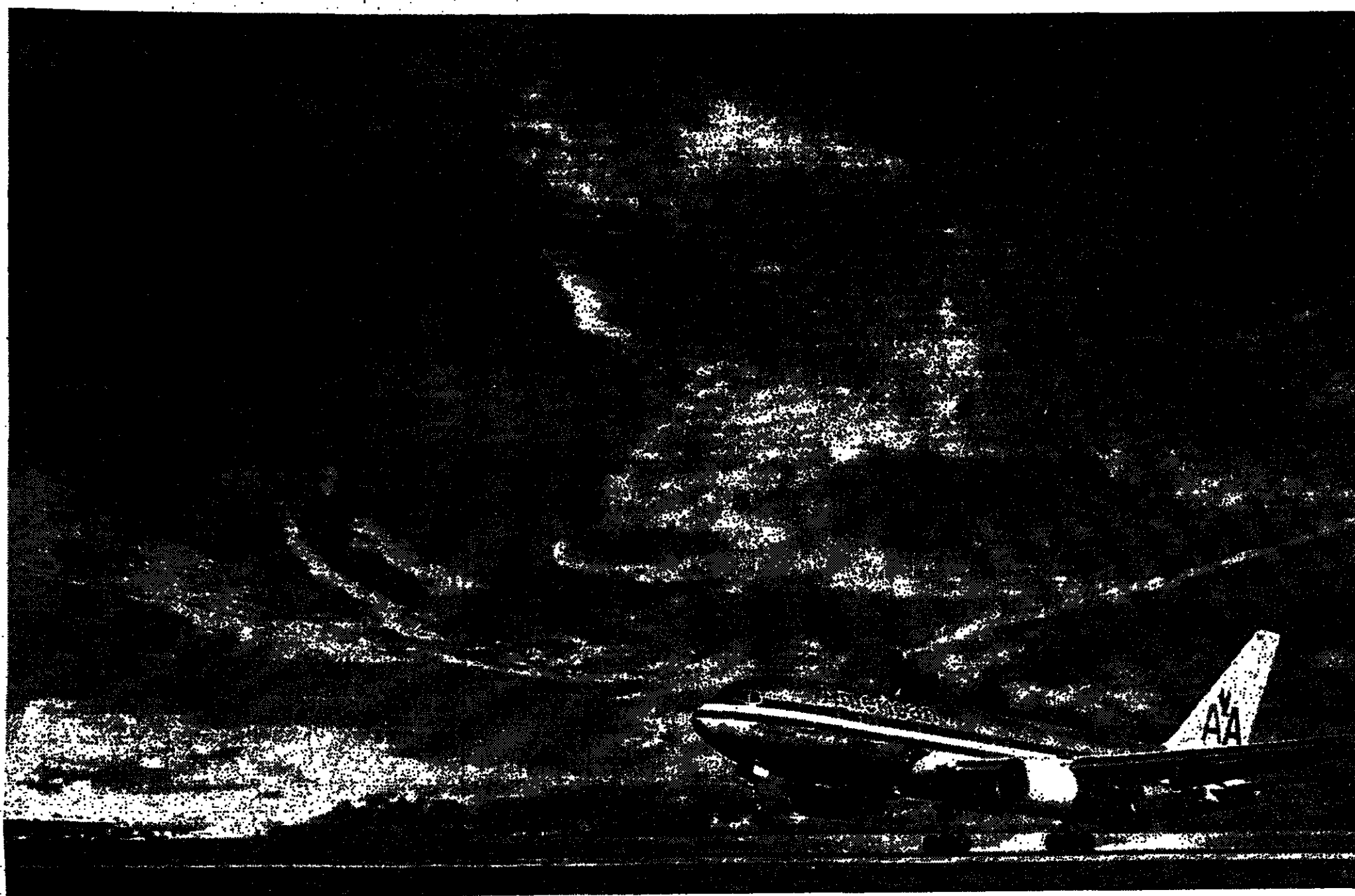
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INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Returns only
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE
LONDON

★ **ASYLUM**: In Paul Kember's new play, Sarah Miles is one of the inmates confronting bulldozers, a video documentary crew and the bewildering world outside.
Lyric Theatre, King St, W6 (01-741 2311). Tue-Sat 7.45pm, Mon-Sat 7.45-10.15pm, mat 2.30-5pm, Sat 4-6.30pm, eve £2-10, mat £6. (D)

★ **DEALING WITH CLAIR**: Tom Courtenay in Martin Crimp's latest play dealing with the hazards of house-buying.
Orange Tree Theatre, 45 Kew Road, Richmond (01-940 3633). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Sat 8-10pm, Sat 2-5.30pm.

★ **DRIVING MISS DAISY**: Wendy Hiller, Barry Foster, Clarke Peters in this year's Pulitzer prize-winning play, the relationship between an elderly Jewish and her black chauffeur. Fragile material but fine acting.
Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-477 2662). Tue-Sat 7.45pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, mat Sat 5-6.30pm, £2-14.

★ **LETITIA AND LOVAGE**: Geraldine McEwan and Sara Canning take over the leads in Peter Shaffer's satirical comedy where two unlikely partners wage eccentric war against the modern world.
Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3667). Tue-Sat 7.45pm, Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, mat Sat 5-6.30pm, £7.50-£15. (D)

★ **RE JOYCE**: Margaret Lippman reimagines Joyce's *Ulysses* as a monologue and song with Denis King at the piano.
Fortune Theatre, Russell St, WC2 (01-836 2238). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 5pm and 8.30pm, £6-£13.50.

★ **THE SNEEZE**: Marvellously funny and varied Chekhov/Frayn pieces, eight in all. From Atkinson, Timothy West and Cheryl Campbell in peak form.
Directed by Ronald Smeal. The Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 6404/6411). Tue-Sat 7.45pm, Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 5pm and 8.30pm, mat Wed 3pm, £2-15.

★ **A WALK IN THE WOODS**: Alec Guinness returns to the stage as a cynical Russian negotiator at a Geneva Conference table.
Comedy Theatre, Panton St, SW1 (01-930 2278). Tue-Sat 8pm, Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 5pm and 8.30pm, mat Sat 5-6.30pm, £4-£15.

OUT OF TOWN

★ **LEADS**: London Assurance: Matchless London Assurance comedy town country, age, youth, jolly rogues.
Tim Luscombe directs. Playhouse, Colverley St (0232 442111). Today and tomorrow 8pm, Wed-Sun 7.30pm, Mon-Fri 8.30-10.30pm, Sat-Sun 2.30-5.30pm.

★ **SOUTHAMPTON**: ★ Rhinoceros: Onisco's Films parade of mass hysteria, probably about fascism.
Municipal Theatre, University Rd (0703 571771). Mon-Thur 7.30pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, Mon-Thur 2.30pm, Fri-Sat 2.30-5.30pm.

★ **WATFORD**: ★ Women Overboard: Adrian Mitchell turns Lope de Vega into a Thirties musical set in the Bay of Naples and inside the crater of a nearby volcano.
Palace Theatre, Clarendon Rd (0923 226771). Mon-Thur 7.45pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, Mon-Thur 2.30-5.30pm, Fri-Sat 2.30-5.30pm. (Today: two for the price of one.)

★ **ALSO ON national release**
★ Advance booking possible
★ **BAGDAD CAFE** (PG): German director Percy Adlon presents the warm, comic tale of a large middle-class tourist from Bavaria stranded in the American West. With Marianne Sägebarth, Jack Palance, C. C. H. Poulton (51 min).
Barbican (01-638 8891). Progs 3.00 (Sun only), 6.00, 8.35 (not Sun).
Chester Cinema (01-351 3742). Progs 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.05, 9.15.
Metro (01-437 0757). Progs 2.00 (not Sat-Tues), 4.15, 6.30, 8.45.

★ **BIG** (PG): Tom Hanks plays the child-turned-grown-up in this latest role-reversal comedy from Hollywood. Penny Marshall directs. (105 min).
Cannon Cinema (01-352 5096). Progs 1.45, 4.40, 7.10, 9.35.
Cannon Cinema (01-636 0310). Progs 2.30, 5.20, 8.20, Late Fri-Sat 11.15.
Odeon High St Kensington (01-602 6644). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.20, 8.40.
Odeon Marble Arch (01-723 2011). Progs 1.15, 3.35, 6.15, 8.45.
Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-222 5905). Progs 1.20, 3.35, 6.00, 8.45.

★ **SWITCHING CHANNELS** (PG): New slapstick version of Hecht and MacArthur's master play *The Front Page*, with Burt Reynolds as the TV news editor determined to hold on to his star reporter (and sex-wedding) *The Front Page*. Directed by Tad Kotcheff, with Christopher Reeve.
Odeon Leicester Sq (01-930 6111). Progs 1.25, 3.15, 6.00, 8.45.

★ **A WORLD APART** (PG): A year-old girl through the eyes of a 10-year-old girl (Judith May) as her mother (Barbara Hershey) is arrested and imprisoned under the 90-day Detention Act (112 min).
Cinema West End (01-439 4805). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.10, 8.50.

★ **MANON**: New production by John Cox, with revised setting of Massenet's romantic opera. Michel Plasseon conducts, cast led by the Romanian soprano Leonora Vaduva making her Royal Opera debut, and with David Rendall as Des Grieux.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066). 7.10-10.45pm, £2.50-£10. (D)

★ **THE MAGIC FLUTE**: Graham Vick's new production for the ever-enterprising City of Birmingham Touring Opera continues its nationwide travels.
Coronation Hall, Ulverston (0229 52299). 7.30-10.30pm, £3.50-£5.

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Electric birthday present



Jane Manning is the soloist at St John's, London, in the world premiere tomorrow evening of songs from Simon Emerson's *Time Regained* — settings of Wordsworth, Whitman and North American Indian texts for soprano, flute, clarinet, horn, five strings and amplification with live electronic modulation.

The work, described as both a secular requiem and as Emerson's 50th birthday present to Manning (pictured together on the left), was commissioned by the Electro-Acoustic Music Association as part of the "Electric London" series.

Outline of the Martinez and her ever-expanding group of musicians look at British electric acoustic composers tonight: Johnny Harrison's *Farber* receives its London premiere, and *Arc*, written by Barry Anderson shortly before his premature death, takes a central place in the programme.

Two further concerts feature music by four expatriate composers (November 29) including UK premieres of works by Javier Alvarez and Danielle Asia; and there is a valuable opportunity on January 17 to experience another side of Philip Glass as an evocative devoted to the music of Kaija Saariaho. His *Jardin d'été* will receive its UK premiere.

Before each concert, at 6.15pm, there is a chance to "meet the composer".
St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222-1061). 7.30pm, £3.50, concessions £2.50.

★ **TANITA TIKARASH**: The singing-songwriting wunderkind now boasting a second hit with the delicious "Twist in My Sobriety".
Chie Hall, London Road, Guildford (0483 5714). 7.30pm, £3.50.

★ **HOTHOUSE FLOWERS**: Currently recording the follow-up to their album, *People*.
Manchester Apollo, Ardwick Green (061 273 6821). 7pm, £2.50-£5. (D)

★ **DAVID LEE ROTH**: More theatrical high-kicks and over-the-top dancing from the ex-Van Halen front man.
NEC, Birmingham (021 740 4133). 8pm, £9-£10.

★ **LUTHER ALLISON**: Veteran Chicago blues guitarist, a contemporary of Buddy Guy and Junior Wells.
100 Club, 100 Oxford Street, London W1 (01-636 0933). 7.30pm, £5.

★ **SAX AT THE SURREY**: First night of a six-day season of young talent opens with Evidence, an amalgam of Monk, Bird and Weather.
Prince Of Orange, 118 Lower Road, London SE15 (01-237 9181). 9pm, free.

★ **REMEMBER PETRASS**: Sylvia Rosenberg (violin) and Ian Brown (piano) play Elliott Carter's *Ricomponza per Goffredo Petrassi*, Beethoven's Sonata Op 10 No 3 and Brahms's Sonata Op 10 No 3.
St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061). 1.2pm, £3.

★ **TWO THINGS**: The London Mozart Trio is heard in Mozart's Piano Trio K 542 and Brahms's Trio Op 8, St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Sq, London WC2 (01-638 1830). 1.35-2pm, free.

★ **FEMININE TOUCH CONTINUES**: The "Feminine Touch" segment of the South Bank's current organ recital series continues with Naomi Matali being entrusted with Bach's *Prelude and Fugue BWV 552*. Scathery's rather inappropriate arrangement of "Night Sounds" from Bartok's *Cut of Doors* and Liszt's great *Fantasia and Fugue on Ad nos, ad salutem undam*.
Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-528 8800). 5.55-8.55pm, £4.50. (D)

★ **PRE-PASTORAL**: In the unstopable "Goodman Plus" series, the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under Sir Neville Marriner plays Justin Knacht's symphony *Le Porteur Musical* de Liszt (1784) for 15 instruments, followed by Beethoven's *Symphony No 4*.
Festival Hall, 7.30pm, £4-£15.

★ **HICKOX/COLLS**: Keeping the "Schubert and Mendelssohn: the Classical Romantics" series going, Richard Hickox conducts the City of London Symphony in Mendelssohn's *String Symphony No 12*, Double Concerto (1784) for 15 instruments, followed by Beethoven's *Symphony No 4*.
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★ **PAUK AND JANDO**: Gyorgy Pauk (violin) and Jeno Jando (piano) have joined to play Bartok's Sonatas Nos 3 and 6, also by Bartok.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 8800). 7.45pm, £3-12. (D)

★ **PERMANENT REVOLUTION**: The "Revolutions" series is always with us and tonight WISCOE (Wind Soloists of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe) undertake Schoenberg's Op 26, followed by Bernard Roberts in Schoenberg's Piano Suite Op 25. Finally they combine for Mozart's Quartet K 452 for piano and wind instruments.
Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 8800). 8pm, £3.50-£7.50. (D)

★ **SWAN LAKE**: Natalia Makarova's production for London Festival Ballet. Palace Theatre, Manchester (061-226 9822). 7.30-10pm, £4.50-£15.50.

★ **GARDEN OF EROS**: A new work by Marguerite Porter for London City Ballet, with *The Nutcracker Suite* and Frank Stallone's dramatic *Transfigured Night*.
Aldcroft Theatre, Croydon (01-888 9281). 7.30-10pm.

★ **PAT STEIR**: Prints by an American painter who re-interprets old masterworks.
Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (01-821 8201). Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 2.55-5pm, free. Until February 12.

★ **ANNE-MARIE QUINN**: Collages and prints by a young Scottish artist during her residency at the gallery.
Leigh Gallery, Leigh, Manchester (0942 679407). Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-4pm, free. Until December 17.

★ **MICHELLE FRANKLIN**: Large oils of the female form.
Serbian Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 4141). Mon-Sat 10am-11pm, Sun 12noon-11pm, free. Until December 17.

★ **BOX OF DELIGHTS**: Fine contemporary work.
Sturford Art Gallery, Lichfield Road, Stafford (0785 57303). Tue-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-4pm, free. Until December 24.

★ **JASON WASON**: The Excavation Series of ceramics.
Austin/Dorson Fine Art, 3 High Street, Sunninghill, Berkshire (0990 291201). Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, free. Until November 26.

★ **THE SOCIETY OF LUNNERS**: Miniature paintings by 26 contemporary artists.
The Medical Galleries, 7 Grafton Street, London W1 (01-638 5675). Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm, free. Until November 24.

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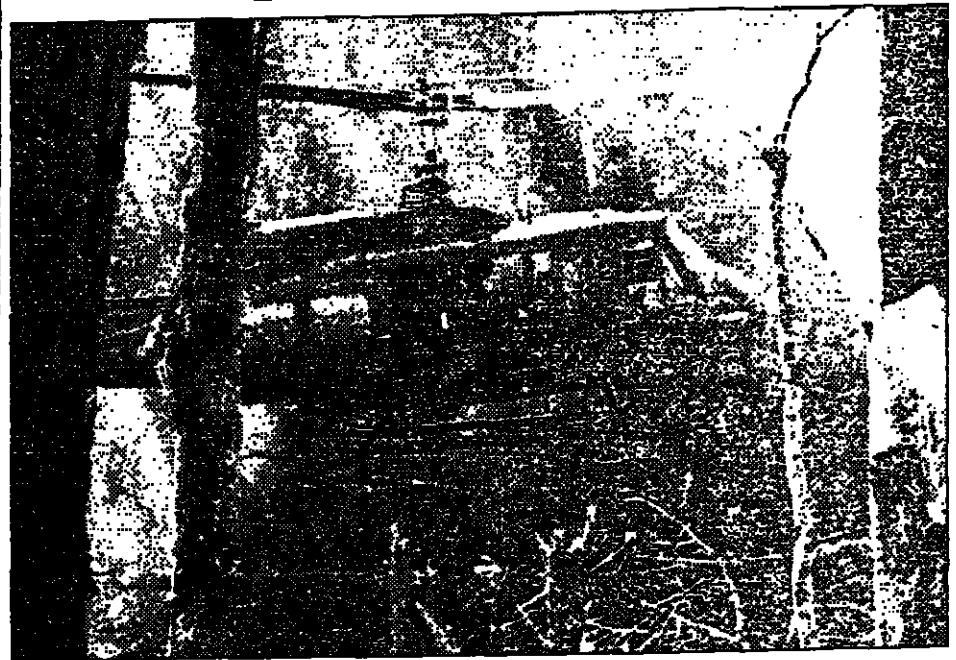
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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Jane Rackham

Going up in the world



Instrument of war: An American helicopter, hovering over a landing zone in the jungle and picking up the dead and wounded, was a common sight in the Vietnam War (BBC2, 8.05pm)

TELEVISION CHOICE

● Nearing the end of its enjoyable excursion through the history of aviation, *Reaching for the Skies* (BBC2, 8.05pm) tackles vertical flight. Recalled in flickering black and white clips, the pioneering efforts in the field were often bizarre, though the autogiro still has a champion in Wing Commander Kenneth Wallis. Putting his enthusiasm into practice, Wallis takes to the heavens in what looks like a flying armchair. More surprisingly, he manages to land intact. The autogiro has been a mainly eccentric footnote to the story of the helicopter. The first practical helicopter was developed by Heinrich Fokker in Germany in the 1930s. Never slow to exploit a propaganda coup, the Nazis got the glamorous test pilot, Hanna Reitsch, to show off the new toy inside the Berlin Sport Hall. The programme is packed with such enticing snippets, while not neglecting the mainstream development

of the helicopter in the United States through the Russian emigré, Igor Sikorsky. With its ability to land without runways, the helicopter has been championed as transport for the inter-city commuter. But its application was destined to be more military than civil, reaching its apotheosis as an instrument of war in the jungles of Vietnam. Now, as airport congestion grows, vertical flight may revert to more peaceful uses.

● In the second of its two-part investigation into the Hong Kong triad gangs, *World in Action* (ITV, 8.30pm) charts the rise of triad violence in Britain. It is an unedifying story. According to the programme there is hardly a big city in the United Kingdom, from Glasgow to Southamp-

ton, where the law-abiding Chinese community is not being terrorized. One of the innocent victims is a London video dealer, Tai Kok Tsai, who received serious knife wounds in a recent attack. He lives in constant fear for himself and his family. The widow of a Glasgow businessman, Philip Wong, describes his horrific death in a hatchet attack. *World in Action* names some of the alleged culprits and travels to the red light district of Hong Kong to find the man said to be behind Britain's triad wars.

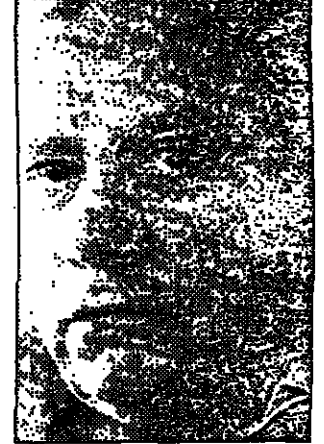
● Hong Kong is also the subject of *Cameron Country* (BBC2, 11.20pm), the first of six film essays by a master of the craft, the late James Cameron. It was made in 1968 when the people of the colony, many of them refugees from China, were seething with distrust and convinced that Britain would let them down.

Peter Waymark

A simple, retiring man

RADIO CHOICE

● There are two plays on successive days this week that are in fact monologues spoken by the only character, both men, each of whom comments on the events and people associated with a particular period in his life. *Tomorrow's* on Radio 3 has Pistol, from Shakespeare's *Henry V*, reminiscing about the battle of Agincourt. In today's, *An End and a Beginning* (Radio 4, 8.15pm) written by Don Howard and directed by Richard Wortley, matters are more mundane. Tom (played by Bert Paraby), an easy-going Northerner made redundant in his mid-fifties by the water company that has employed him for years repairing burst mains, speaks without rancour, but with a touch of scorn, about the world that has changed about him — like football terraces "taken over by 13-year-old hooligans".



Bert Paraby plays a man facing change (R4, 8.15pm)

With his £9,000 lump sum Tom sets up as a gardener, acquires a dog — so excited it bounds around "as though it had won the pools" — meets a widow with a nice house, which she sells after he has fixed up her garden, and finally settles down with just the dog, about the only constant factor in his life. The very ordinariness of Tom's existence makes the play a bit long at 60 minutes but some of the descriptions strike home shrewdly, like the people Tom has Sunday drinks with at the house next door to the widow's: "Academicians and journalists most of them, but quite a few normal people as well." It was also taken by his description of a professor's wife: "A full frontal nuclear dissembler with a kitchen full of steam and children" and of a character who, he says, "sat under a rug like Death in Venice". But if Tom is such an ordinary kind of chap, what is he doing using words like invariably, perceptibly and incubus, and phrases like "wider geo-political situations"?

● Directly after the Haworth play you can hear the Prime Minister speaking at the Lord Mayor's Banquet (Radio 4, 9.15pm).

Ken Gosling

BBC1

6.00 Ceefax AM.
6.35 Edgar Kennedy in *Noisy Neighbours* (b/w). 6.55 Weather.
7.00 Breakfast with Kirsty Wark and Sally Jones. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25; regional news and travel reports at 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27. 8.55 Regional news and weather.
9.00 News and weather followed by Open Air. Eamonn Holmes, Susan Rae and Natalia Anglessey receive viewers' comments on the weekend's television offerings.
9.20 Kilroy! Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a discussion on a topical subject.
10.00 News and weather followed by *The Pink Panther Show* (r). 10.25 Children's BBC introduced by Andy Crane beginning with *Playbus 10.50* (r).
10.55 Five to Eleven. Actor Harold Green with a reading.
11.00 News and weather followed by Open Air includes a discussion on whether quiz show hosts are born or made.
12.00 News and weather followed by *Daytime Live*. A tribute to the Prince of Wales on his 40th birthday including live coverage from the Palladium Shopping Centre in Birmingham where the Prince is meeting young people who have set up businesses with the help of the Prince's youth business trust. 12.55 Regional news and weather.
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather 1.30.
1.30 *Neighbours*. Jenna makes a hasty exit. 1.50 *Going for Gold*.
2.15 *The Birthday Prince* live from a former tram depot near Aston Villa football ground which has been refurbished by an organization of which the Prince is president. The programme includes the Prince's speech in response to Jim Gardner, chairman of the Prince's Trust. 2.40 *Look, Stranger* (r).

BBC2

9.00 Ceefax 9.40 *Daytime on Two*: are fashions made in the Third World too cheap? 1.00 *Music*: tempo 10.40 *Thinkabout* 10.55 A Swedish winter festival 11.00 *Music* to celebrate Christmas 11.40 *Malibu* 12.00 *Music* service in France 12.15 *Hilder's Germany* 1933-1938 12.35 *Pakistan's* general election 1.00 *Bridges* 1.25 *The Adventures of Spot* (r). 1.30 *What's Inside?* (r). 1.40 *Landmarks*. The modern Selby coal-mine complex polytechnic and universities to their older students. 2.00 News and weather followed by *Words and Pictures* (r). 2.15 *Songs of Praise* (r). (Ceefax).
3.00 News and weather followed by *Pro-Celebrity Golf*. Lee Trevino and Sandy Lyle are joined by Eddie Large and Kevin Keegan (r). 3.50 News, regional news and weather.
4.00 *Catchword*. Word game presented by Andrew Davies. 4.30 *Blizzard's Outdoor Toys*. Richard Blizzard builds models of a Viking ship and a village store 4.40 *Behind the Screen*.

BBC1 WALES 6.30pm-7.00 *Wales Today* 10.10 *Party Political Broadcast* (PBB) (Cymru) 10.15 *A Very Peculiar Practice* 11.10 *Electric Avenue* 11.25 *The Style Cymru* 12.05am-12.10 News and weather 12.07 *10.10* *Reportage* Scotland 12.30-1.00 *Reportage* Scotland 1.30-1.50 *Reportage* Scotland 1.50-2.00 *Reportage* Scotland 2.00-2.15 *Reportage* Scotland 2.15-2.30 *Reportage* Scotland 2.30-2.45 *Reportage* Scotland 2.45-3.00 *Reportage* Scotland 3.00-3.15 *Reportage* Scotland 3.15-3.30 *Reportage* Scotland 3.30-3.45 *Reportage* Scotland 3.45-4.00 *Reportage* Scotland 4.00-4.15 *Reportage* Scotland 4.15-4.30 *Reportage* Scotland 4.30-4.45 *Reportage* Scotland 4.45-5.00 *Reportage* Scotland 5.00-5.15 *Reportage* Scotland 5.15-5.30 *Reportage* Scotland 5.30-5.45 *Reportage* Scotland 5.45-6.00 *Reportage* Scotland 6.00-6.15 *Reportage* Scotland 6.15-6.30 *Reportage* Scotland 6.30-6.45 *Reportage* Scotland 6.45-7.00 *Reportage* Scotland 7.00-7.15 *Reportage* Scotland 7.15-7.30 *Reportage* 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CHANGE ON WEEK	
FT 30 Share	US dollar
1461.2 (-24.4)	1.8150 (+0.0495)
FT-SE 100	W German mark
1802.7 (-31.6)	3.1472 (-0.0219)
USM (Datastream)	Trade-weighted
161.29 (-1.06)	77.0 (+0.3)

THE TIMES

MONDAY NOVEMBER 14 1988

PART 2
 BUSINESS AND FINANCE 25-32
 LAW 33
 SPORT 41-46

Executive Editor
 David Brewerton

Pressure mounts for share sale by Elders

By Cliff Feltham

The Government is expected to come under increasing pressure this week to force Elders IXL, the Australian brewer, to sell the shares it bought in Scottish & Newcastle Breweries immediately after its hostile bid had been referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Lord Young, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, on Friday plugged the loophole which had allowed Elders to lift its stake from 14.1 per cent to 23.6 per cent. In future, once a bid has been referred it will be illegal for a predator to carry on buying shares.

However, S&N feels that changing the rules now will do little to help its fight for survival, even though Elders has been stripped of voting rights on the shares it acquired while the MMC inquiry runs.

Advisers to S&N are bound to intensify pressure on the DTI to force Elders to sell the shares, arguing that Lord Young's prompt action is an admission that companies on the wrong end of a takeover bid were left dangerously exposed during the referral process. They are likely to suggest that both sides should revert to the status quo.

S&N is particularly incensed because in its own submission to the Office of Fair Trading it pressed for an early decision on a referral and called for "a block on any further stake build-up being in place in the event of a reference being made."

Mountleigh could face hostile bid

By Our City Staff

Mountleigh is set for a critical few days amid speculation that it could face a hostile takeover bid unless it agrees to sell its Spanish department store business.

SASEA, the Italian group, is keen to acquire Galerías Preciados, Spain's second largest department store chain, which was bought by the property group last year. There are suggestions that unless Mountleigh agrees to the sale, SASEA will mount a full bid for the business. It holds just over 7 per cent of Mountleigh's shares.

Mountleigh has found itself at the mercy of a predator after reports of boardroom rifts.

Merger talks with Wembley, which owns Wembley Stadium, were abandoned amid suggestions of a disagreement over who should head the new business.

Mountleigh then bought a large block of its own shares in what was seen as a defensive move.

Observers believe it was anxious to remove shares which a predator might pick up as a platform to launch a full bid.

Boesky visited

The Fraud squad is believed to have seen Mr Ivan Boesky, the arbitrator, in a California jail over its inquiries into the Distillers takeover by Guinness. The Serious Fraud Office has spoken to the US Justice Department about the extradition of Mr Thomas Ward, the former Guinness director.

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH

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- Calls charged 5p for 8 seconds peak, 12 seconds off peak inc. VAT.

Abbey set for heavy loss in merger vote

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Abbey Life would seem to have lost today's vote for its proposed £1.1 billion merger with Lloyds Bank, as proxy votes opposing the deal streamed in over the weekend.

Mr Michael Hepher, Abbey Life's chairman and chief executive, said: "It is distinctly unlikely that we will get the 75 per cent support we need."

It is understood that the proxies so far received indicate a final vote of slightly more than 60 per cent in favour. Although the basic merger requires only 50 per cent support, the package includes a special resolution altering Abbey's articles of association, which needs approval from three quarters of the votes cast.

Defeat means the probable collapse of the deal, which would have given Lloyds a 57 per cent controlling stake in Abbey and created one of the largest financial services groups in Britain. It would also have removed the danger of a hostile bid for Abbey.

Hard-core opposition amounts to about 20 per cent of all Abbey Life shares. But little more than half the company's shares are expected to be voted. A high level of abstentions is almost certain from institutions unable to decide about the complex link-up.

Mr Hepher said: "We seem to have got caught up in a so-called point of principle over Lloyds' majority shareholding, although not a single one of the main opponents is against the commercial logic of the deal."

Opponents claim that on principle Lloyds should not be gaining control of Abbey without paying a bid premium. Mr Hepher admitted that Abbey had misjudged the level of opposition and had wrongly constructed the deal.

"If I had known what I know today, I would have packaged this deal without any special resolutions. I just never thought we would have so much opposition to such a good idea. Neither I nor any of our advisers gave the special resolution problem much thought."

The deal will almost certainly collapse because neither Abbey nor Lloyds is willing to go to great lengths to find an alternative solution. "The basic terms cannot and will not be renegotiated," Mr Hepher insisted. "I am not a believer in flogging dead horses."

But he added that if opponents of the deal indicated that they would accept certain adjustments to the terms — such as lowering the Lloyds stake — Abbey might try to renegotiate.

Lloyds, however, is not des-

perate to secure the deal at all costs. It was originally approached by Abbey and only agreed to the deal after lengthy negotiations.

The leading opponents among Abbey's shareholders are PostTel, with 4.5 per cent; Clerical Medical & General, with 3.4 per cent; Scottish Equitable, with 1 per cent; and Standard Life, with 2.9 per cent. Mercury Asset Management, the investment division of SG Warburg, which is handling the deal for Abbey, is expected to abstain although it was understood last week to be strongly against the proposed merger.

There were suggestions that some life companies were opposing the link-up on the grounds that Abbey would become too strong a competitor.

The failure of the merger means a troubled future for Abbey. In its attempt to win over shareholders, it has convinced most people that it is not big enough and that its growth prospects are limited.

Mr Hepher emphasized that no alternative bids had been made for the company. "Our opponents are abandoning the certainty of much higher earnings for the remote hope of a bid from the Continent."

Abbey's shares are expected to fall from Friday's close of 278.5p once the deal is rejected.



Optimistic: Derek Kingsbury, chairman and chief executive (Photograph: Mark Aspland)

Fairey Group to seek listing

By Alexandra Jackson

Fairey Group is to seek a stock market listing through an offer of shares this month.

The group is a specialized engineering company with a three-tiered business — electronics and electrical power, aerospace and defence, and filtration and specialized ceramics.

The name is remembered for the Fairey Swordfish, the Second World War single engine bi-plane, while 10 years ago the company was put into liquidation, part of which was rescued by the National Enterprise Board. In 1986 there was a £51 million management buyout from Pearson.

The listing will raise about £25 million most of which will be new money and will capitalize the company at about £55 million. Details will be

announced on Wednesday and first dealings are expected before the end of the month.

A forecast of operating profits of £9.5 million will be published for the year to end-December. This compares with a figure of £7.9 million last year when sales were £77.7 million. Adjusting for a notional interest charge for 1988, profits at the pre-tax level will fall to £8.7 million.

On this basis, the offer is likely to price the group at between nine and 10 times prospective earnings. This represents a discount to stocks in similar business areas such as Dowty and Smiths Industries, both of which are valued at well over 10 times p/e. The shares are expected to yield between 4.5 and 5 per cent.

None of the institutional

shareholders are selling shares and the management is disposing of a very modest number. The new money will be used to repay the borrowings incurred at the time of the management buyout and to provide Fairey with increased financial flexibility.

Mr Derek Kingsbury, chairman and chief executive, is optimistic about the group's prospects. "It is only two years since the management buyout so there is still plenty of reorganization benefit to come through. Thereafter we are looking for medium-sized acquisitions in similar businesses and steady growth from the existing businesses."

The offer is being handled by Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank, while Cazenove is the broker.

Rise in rates has ended sales boom, says CBI

By Our Financial Staff

The sales boom appears to have come to an end. The growth in retail sales slowed markedly in October, providing the first strong sign that higher interest and mortgage rates are having the desired effect.

The monthly Confederation of British Industry distribution survey shows that 30 per cent of retailers and wholesalers saw higher sales than in the same month a year ago and 19 per cent lower sales, leaving a balance of 31 per cent.

This is the smallest balance since April, itself the second lowest since the survey was started five years ago. The CBI's survey of both wholesalers and retailers shows a similar downturn in October, though both groups expect better things this month.

The motor trade was even worse hit and is now less optimistic about November than in any month for almost a year.

The figures also show that the October downturn came as a surprise. A large balance of

both retailers and wholesalers had expected buoyant sales but were disappointed.

Mr Nigel Whitaker, chairman of the CBI's survey panel said: "Consumer confidence seems to have been further hit by October's mortgage rate increase, coming on top of earlier rises."

"This is the second survey in succession that has indicated slower growth in retail sales and the summer sales boom now appear to be over."

Dealers will watch closely to see if the CBI survey is borne out in the Government figures for retail sales, which are expected to bounce back as mail order firms recover from the postal strike.

The first fruits of the measures by the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, to take the heat out of the economy will in any case come as a relief to the Government in a week that promises a series of embarrassing economic statistics culminating in the rise of inflation above the 6 per cent mark.

The latest figure for the

Seven analysts join Shearson team

By Cliff Feltham

Seven new analysts from rival firms are joining Shearson Lehman Hutton, the US securities house, today as part of its drive to raise the profile of its research team in

London. Mr Rodney Schwarz and Miss Susan German from Paine, Webber and Mr Robert Law from Kistner & Arken are joining the banking side.

Mr Nick Clayton from SG Warburg joins the oils team and Miss Caroline Moses

from Mitsubishi Finance International joins the equities team. Mr Rowland Morgan from Credit Suisse Buckmaster and Moore and Mr Jim Lennon from the Commodities Research Institute complete the drive.

ConsGold lifts lid on US assets

From Colin Campbell
 New York

Consolidated Gold Fields, fighting on four continents to retain its independence from Minoro, is about to lift the lid on its jewel box for a peek — but only a peek — at one of its most prized possessions.

Inside the box, which ConsGold insists is for the benefit and the inheritance of its shareholders, and not for Minoro to get its hands on, lies the group's North American mining assets.

Individually the North American gold mining assets are the 100 per cent owned Gold Fields Mining Corporation (GFMC), which has been a successful exploration company in its own right, and the group's 49 per cent interest in Newmont Mining Corporation, which through its exploration programme is one of the United States' most significant gold mining companies.

Collectively, GFMC and Newmont are ConsGold's pathway into the next Century, and a pathway which is paved with gold.

ConsGold has been shy to put

Lazard 'leak' inquiry

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Lazard Freres, the US investment bank acting as adviser to Minoro, will today issue a strong defence against accusations that it leaked information about its client's intended £2.9 billion bid for Consolidated Goldfields weeks before the bid was announced.

Minoro was surprised by a weekend report that its intended hostile bid was leaked to Newmont Mining, a ConsGold associate company in the US. It has questioned Lazard which claims that there were "significant inaccuracies" in the report based on evidence submitted to a US court.

In the submission, Mr Gor-

don Parker, chairman of Newmont, said that he was told of the bid by Mr George Ames, a director of Lazard Freres, the US investment bank advising Minoro.

In a conversation last August, Mr Ames explained to Mr Parker that he could not act on behalf of Newmont. He said this would involve him in a conflict of interest, because Minoro was already planning a bid for ConsGold.

The evidence, it is likely to be considered by the Monopolies Commission, now investigating whether there was any destabilization of ConsGold's share price before the bid.

Analysts from London in America this week, will be GFMC's Chimney Creek open pit gold mine, 48 miles north east of Winnemucca, Nevada; and some of Newmont's mining operations in the Carlin Trend, Nevada.

Carlin Trend is a track of

mineral deposits which the hand of Midas has touched, and for American gold miners is the place to be.

Carlin is the largest gold-bearing area found anywhere in the world this century, where more than 25 million oz of gold have been identified by a host of mining companies. The surface of the Carlin trend has merely been scratched, and in time underground mining will follow.

Meanwhile, open cast mining means that cash costs are generally low, and often no more than \$100/oz. And Newmont is the most significant of the players in the area, having first identified what is now the Carlin Mine (which gives the belt its name) as long ago as 1962.

But GFMC has developed two important gold mines, Chimney Creek and Mesquite, in its own right. More recently, it has identified two areas of possible reserves at Elkhorn in Montana, which follows four years of drilling, and a possible reserve at Mule Canyon, Nevada. Together these properties could contain more than 1 million ounces of gold.

Dollar to face new attack

From Bailey Morris
 Washington

Markets are braced for a further assault on the dollar today despite an attempt by the Reagan administration to restore confidence by disavowing the comment of a senior adviser to Mr George Bush, the President-elect, that the currency must fall further.

The dollar fell to \$1.81 against the pound, to Y123.70, and to DM1.74 last Friday in a trend which officials fear will continue. Wednesday's release of new trade figures, expected to show the deficit remaining high, could provide another important test.

US Treasury officials, alarmed by the post-election plunge of both the dollar and the stock market, told investors that it was not administration policy to let the currency drop.

Mr Martin Feldstein, a senior economic adviser to Mr Bush, had said the dollar must depreciate by 20 per cent to correct the US trade imbalance. Mr Feldstein has expressed this view in the past, but the timing of his address to the American Stock Exchange was regarded as a signal of Mr Bush's intentions.

A Treasury official said the comments, made by Mr Feldstein, a former chairman

Comment.....31

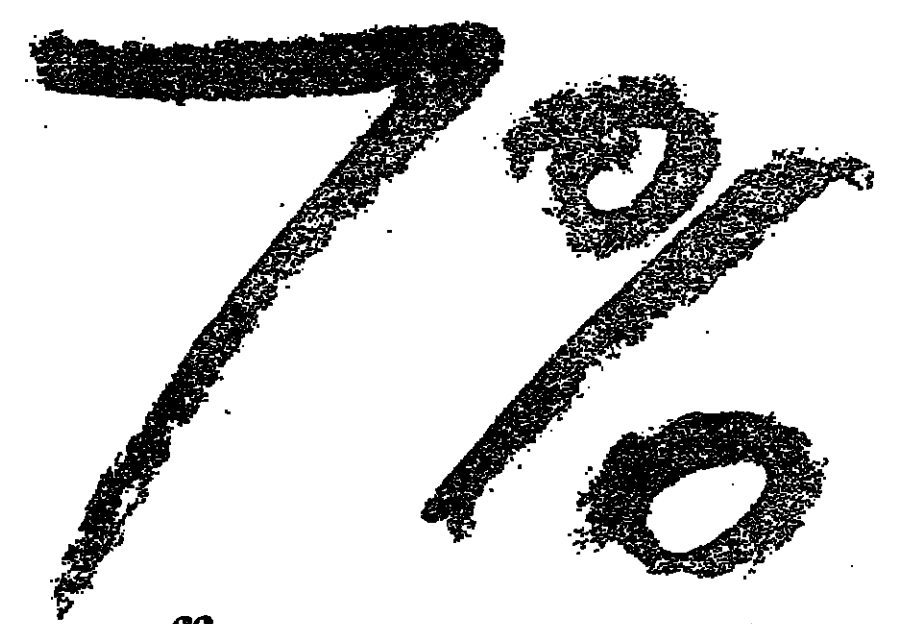
of the US Council of Economic Advisers, gave "a false impression of administration policy."

In London, Mr George Gould, the Treasury Under-Secretary, issued a statement stating: "We, as a matter of policy have no interest in seeing the dollar lower." Advisers to Mr Bush said Mr Feldstein spoke for himself.

Officials also said pressure was growing on Mr Bush to announce a deficit reduction policy before his inauguration in January.

Mr Fred Bergsten, a former Treasury official who is director of the Institute for International Economics, said the market's negative reaction indicated that Mr Bush should formulate a credible budget plan to allay the fears of investors and foreign officials during the transition period. This should be followed by a summit conference of the Group of Seven nations early next year.

Last week's 60-point fall on Wall Street since Tuesday's election was attributed to the belief that the Bush administration and Congress will clash on deficit reduction if the President-elect sticks to his pledge not to raise new taxes.



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TEMPUS

How to avoid a steel débâcle

The offer of 2 billion British Steel shares will have to be attractive — with electricity and water privatizations looming, the Government simply cannot afford the risk of another BP débâcle. The question is, how attractive?

Now that we have a profit forecast and a dividend forecast, courtesy of the pathfinder prospectus, those prospective investors who like to juggle with figures can peruse a combination to come up with their chosen share price.

The yield is the key. When safe blue chip, non-cyclical monopolies such as British Gas are on a prospective gross yield of 7 per cent the Government would appear to have little flexibility. How can it hope to sell British Steel on anything less than a 7 per cent yield?

In contrast to British Gas, British Steel's business is cyclical, not a monopoly, and in a highly competitive sector where there is overcapacity and the threat of greater competition from Europe.

True, Sir Robert Scholey and his men have done a truly remarkable job, not just in turning British Steel round, but in making it a leading low-cost steel producer able to compete internationally.

There will be further benefits as the group becomes even more efficient. It has slimmed to five main steelmaking centres, but that is still probably one too many. And there is further scope for phasing out pig iron production and replacing it with continuous casting. But even its most fervent supporters admit that steel is



Leading the field: Sir Robert Scholey, chief of British Steel

not much of a growth industry. In time the less efficient steel manufacturers in Europe will catch up in terms of cost efficiency, reducing British Steel's scope to make incursions into their markets.

And British Steel's own cost-saving measures cannot maintain their historic pace indefinitely.

Hence the concentration on giving a good yield to make the issue attractive. Top estimates of the sale price of British Steel range up to £2.8 million, implying a yield of 7.1 per cent. However it is likely that to ensure success the institutions will be looking for a yield of nearer 7.5 per cent. At that level the Government

would realize a short £2.7 billion.

Anything more than a 7.5 per cent yield and it would virtually be guaranteed the successful flotation it so badly needs.

Food sector

You do not often hear the lyric "Food, glorious food" sung in the stock market. The industry is considered dreary and ex-growth because of static population trends and the decline in food spending as a proportion of total consumer spending.

However, the industry is

constantly undergoing subtle changes that have opened opportunities to enlightened companies and investors alike.

While there are food manufacturing companies whose shares make sound investment sense in buoyant times current worries about the nation's economy are bringing the sector's defensive qualities to the fore.

David Shaw, an analyst for CL-Alexanders Laing & Crickbank, has given the sector a thorough going over in a recently published review.

He highlights how changing eating habits, product development, acquisitions and investment in sound brands

has kept earnings and dividend growth at a very satisfactory level.

On top of this, low inflation, improved production efficiencies, a changing product mix and stable raw material costs, have enhanced profitability, while strategic acquisitions and disposals at home and overseas have brought rationalization opportunities.

The importance of some of these factors will wane, says the report, but others such as geographical expansion and the development of higher margin convenience food will provide good substance for the future.

Although there are opportunities for food manufacturing groups in the run up to 1992 these may take time to work through to the bottom line.

However, the emerging value of brands, as shown by the takeover of Rowntree by Nestlé, has lifted the value of some companies to a new plane altogether both in terms of the marketing opportunities for products and their attractions to a predator.

Bearing in mind the defensive attractions of the sector, while at the same time considering the likelihood of above average earnings and dividend growth from some stocks, Mr Shaw has picked Hilldown Holdings, Unilever, Hazlewood Foods and Northern Foods.

Cadbury Schweppes and United Biscuits are also considered attractive but timing is important as bid rumours provide trading opportunities, while United Biscuits provides an attractive yield.

GILT-EDGED

Market is transformed by Bank operations

The Government's huge fiscal surplus has wrought a profound change in the gilt-edged market. In consequence, the yardsticks the market has used in the past to evaluate yields are no longer relevant. That will persist a long time — as long, indeed, as the surpluses.

Short-dated yields are a good example of this change. On the face of it, they are discounting a cut in base rates of at least 1 per cent. But even the most inveterate optimist doubts whether the traditional Budget-time base rate cut (there has been one each year since 1981) will be possible next year; many forecasters expect base rates still to be at 12 per cent in a year's time.

The level of longer-dated gilt yields also looks odd in relation to experience. About a year ago, just before the equity market crash, longer-dated yields touched 10 1/2 per cent. Yields were driven up by the fear that a strong economy would push up the inflation rate and sharply widen the current account deficit.

Now, these fears have become reality, with a record current account deficit in prospect for next year and a rising inflation rate. Indeed, there is a risk that the underlying inflation rate, stable at 4.5 per cent since 1983, will see a rise. And yet long yields are 1 per cent lower at 9 1/2 per cent.

The problem facing the investor in gilts has been how to judge the ebbs and flows in the battle between the poor, and worsening, economic background and the good, and improving, technical background. So far, the latter — typified by a severe stock shortage — has clearly had the better of the battle.

The extent to which the Bank of England's role in the market has changed because of the fiscal surplus still tends to come as a surprise. Mr Lawson put it bluntly in the Mansion House speech — the Bank is now required "to purchase gilts, not sell them." It is a complete volte-face.

The buying is on a large scale as well. We estimate that the Bank bought in £1 billion of gilts — above and

beyond normal redemptions — in the first quarter of the fiscal year. On the basis of statistics in the *Quarterly Bulletin*, released last Thursday, it seems the buying in the second quarter could have been stepped up slightly to £1.2 billion.

What of the rest of the year? Official policy is to fund the PSBR fully — or, as Mr Lawson said, fully "unfunded" the PSBR surplus. In this case, the Bank will need to buy in more than £5 billion in the second half of the financial year — above redemptions.

In the *Bulletin*, the Bank said the National Debt in private sector hands stood at £178 billion at the end of the last financial year — this could be reduced by £12 billion this year by the Bank's operations. The buy-in programme will continue next year — the stock of outstanding gilts will continue to fall, fast.

So far, the Bank has tended to buy longer-dated issues. But, increasingly, the scale of its operations will force it to take whatever stock is available, so that it will tend to buy shorter-dated gilts as well.

The result is that the whole market has tended to look very expensive against the economic background — and a poor background it is from the hairshirt bond perspective. It is the inflation increase, however, that could fundamentally undermine gilts.

Pressure of demand is the problem. Because the Government judged this to be excessive, interest rates, including mortgage rates, have risen. But the reason for the inflation rise goes well beyond higher mortgage rates — the pressure of demand is generating a classic demand-pull inflation.

The real worry, however, is that demand-pull will turn into cost-push. The wage round is only just starting but there are signs that settlements have edged up. This could have further to go and is the main reason for doubting the Treasury's end-1989 forecast of 5 per cent.

We think the official forecast of inflation will — again — be proved correct. Prod-

uctivity growth promised to keep surprising (especially given the current capital spending boom). And while wage settlements threaten to go up, the increase in unit wage costs could stay well below the inflation rate.

Furthermore, we believe the increase in domestic demand next year will be only half that of this year, which is the sort of slowdown the Bank has indicated should be sufficient to reverse the deterioration in both the current account and inflation rate.

A key point is that the inflation rate will fall but only if a significant sterling depreciation can be avoided. Mr Lawson has said countless times that a stable exchange rate is indeed the Government's aim, despite the current account deficit that is in prospect.

To retain any anti-inflation credibility, the Government must succeed in keeping sterling at a high level. This is at the very heart of its anti-inflation policy. With interest rates to be kept high, and possibly even raised, with this objective in view, we believe that continued firm — or even stronger — sterling could be one of the surprises in store for 1989.

But even if this is true, the short-term inflation outlook is still poor. With the Bank buying in so much stock, the longer end of the gilt market has been left in limbo. Interest has been in the index-linked sector.

Nominal long yields have been capped by the Bank's operations which means that the worsening inflation outlook has resulted in an implicit squeeze on implied real yields on conventional issues. This ultimately has been reflected in a fall in the real yields on index-linked, which could have further to go.

In the longer term, pessimism over inflation could prove to be overdone and the yield curve could shift down next year. But we must wait until the end of the wage round in the spring before confidence starts to ebb back.

Ian Harwood and
John Shepperd
SG Warburg Securities

Uncertainty 'damaging power boards'

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Uncertainty over the appointment of the key management of the 12 area electricity boards which are about to be privatized is materially damaging decision making and morale within the boards, according to a survey by Spicers Consulting Group which specializes in the electricity industry.

At present the 12 area electricity boards are being run by directors appointed by the Secretary of State for Energy, but several finish their terms of office during the coming 18 months. The area boards are due to move into

the private sector early in the spring of 1990.

Spicers, which examined in detail the issues affecting the privatization, said: "The urgent need is to end current uncertainties damaging the decision-making processes in the industry by appointing chairmen, chief executives, finance directors and the rest of top management teams as soon as feasible.

"Unless this need is met morale is bound to suffer, decisions will be deferred and there is a considerable risk of ill-considered appointments which would make achieve-

ment of the Government's objective of a competitive industry that much harder."

The Spicers survey lists the critical factors as:

● Clearly defining the respective role of chairmen and chief executives.

● Obtaining a balanced mix of non-executive directors to reflect the interests of the stakeholders in the new ples.

● Matching the structures of the boards of directors with those of the new ples, ideally achieving market-orientated rather than functionally based board structures.

● Introducing a contractual

and remuneration structure which motivates top management to achieve the key tasks for flotation at the new ples.

● Ensuring that the contribution of existing top managers to the flotation process is adequately rewarded.

"The chairman, chief executive and finance director will be the most important appointments, but there are significant issues surrounding the appointment of other directors which cannot be neglected," says the survey.

"Finding individuals of the required calibre will present a considerable challenge to the

boards. Following established procedures in accordance with best practice in private sector companies should enable the boards to identify requirements, find suitable individuals and match remuneration and terms of employment to the magnitude of the task.

"This process will necessitate a review of the remuneration and terms of employment of existing top management to avoid serious disparities, both internally and by comparison with other ples, and to recognize the burden they are carrying in preparing the boards for flotation."

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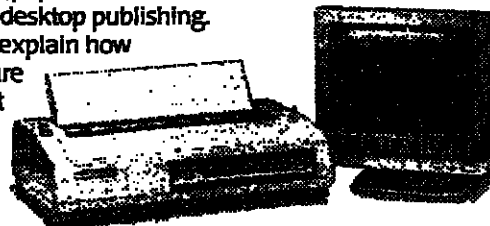
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BOC expected to top £300m on gas and chemicals growth

TODAY

A busy week on the company news front starts with BOC, the industrial gases and healthcare group run by Mr Richard Giordano. BOC reports annual results, and analysts expect between £295 million and £305 million against £263 million last time.

Mr Mike Tyson, an analyst at Credit Suisse Buckmaster & Moore, believes pre-tax profits will significantly pass the £300 million mark for the first time.

He says the strong performance from the group's industrial gases activities, evident in the third quarter, will have continued, with improved consumption by the chemical and electronic industries in particular being a significant factor in this growth.

Figures from the healthcare activities should benefit from a reduction in the cost burden incurred by the Glascock Home Health Care business in introducing its computer-based management system.

London: International Group, the contraceptive manufacturer, upset the market at the annual meeting in September when the chairman, Mr Alan Woltz, gave a warning that first-half pre-tax profits were unlikely to match last year's £15.01 million.

Miss Julie Tulloch of Hoare Govett, the broker, is looking for £13.5 million for the six months to end-September, and is hoping for signs that the situation has improved in the second half. The profits downturn was blamed on destocking by re-tailers, together with raw material quality problems in the US.

Hoare Govett expects full-year profits of perhaps £24.5 million on an optimistic estimate, up from £31.51 million.

Interims: ASW Holdings, BOC Group, Cater Allen Holdings, Fairbairn, Honda Motor Co, Isopad International, London International, London International, Schroder Money Funds, Stratton Investment Trust, Unilever.

Finals: Gencor, Tubular Exhibition Group.

TOMORROW

The first of the recently privatized companies reporting figures this week is British Airways, with interim results for the six months to end-September. Pre-tax profits of £216 million, down £16 million on last time, expected by Mr Mark McVicar at County



Alan Woltz: warning over high expectations

Robert Bauman: medicine for recovery

NatWest, the broker, will be of purely historic interest, reflecting the acquisition of British Caledonian and accumulated losses on routes now given up.

The market will be looking for proof that B-Cal is successfully integrated in time for the winter season, and for indications on bookings.

Wardle Stores is expected to have seen a continuation of the first-half's good performance, and analysts expect full-year results to have advanced by more than 30 per cent to £16.5 million against £12.7 million.

The technical products division should have provided a strong second-half performance as demand remained firm in the vehicle and nursery areas, which would help compensate for a flat showing by its safety and survival division.

Interims: AAH Holdings, British Airways, De La Rue Company, F&C Eurotrust, Granite Surface Coatings, Great Portland Estates, Just Rubber, JFC Lilley, Meyer International, Sotheby's Holdings, Southnews, Tanjong Tin Dredging, Thames Television, Trimco, Unigate, Warnford Investments.

Finals: Concentric, Control Techniques, Hatfield Estates, London Entertainments, Raine Industries, Tomkin.

WEDNESDAY

Shares of Beecham, the pharmaceutical group, have underperformed the market over the past month, first on news that clinical trials on Cromakalim, its high blood pressure drug, had been temporarily suspended, and then on unsubstantiated rumours of a pending fund-raising exercise.

Shareholders, therefore, will be hoping that Mr Robert

used weakening of the dollar and leading European currencies against sterling will have reduced sales by about £50 million.

However, the strongest sales growth is believed to have been achieved by the prescription pharmaceutical and over-the-counter medicine business — up 10 and 8 per cent respectively — while sales of the toiletries and cosmetics businesses are thought to have risen by 5 per cent.

Interims: Allied Irish Banks, Beecham Group, Brewmaker, Cable and Wireless, Highland Participants, Regalian Properties, Sketchley, Wagon Industries, Whitbread and Company.

Finals: Land Securities.

THURSDAY

BAA, the airports authority, should reflect good traffic levels in recent months in its half-way figures to end-September. County NatWest is going for a conservative

£150 million, up from £136 million. In addition there should be one-off profits from some sales of the Lynton Properties portfolio.

Year-on-year, the rise in traffic levels should be about 5 to 6 per cent, in line with long-term trends, believes County NatWest.

British Telecom is expected to announce a small improvement in interim pre-tax profits

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from £1.1 billion to £1.2 billion.

Analysts have been upgrading second-quarter estimates due to the continuing buoyancy of traffic volume, which was bolstered by the Post Office strike.

Recent interim results from Marks and Spencer and Storehouse have been disappointing and the City will thus be looking for Sir Ralph Halpern, the Burton chief, to stop the rot when his group reveals annual results.

Analysts await the company's decision on whether it will provide for the put option on the convertible Eurobond, which they estimate would require a profit-and-loss account debit of about £6 million.

Mr John Richards at County NatWest is going for £211 million and believes the generally dull and competitive fashion market will have led to a marked second-half slowdown, with Top Shop and Top Man suffering the most.

Interims: BAA, British Telecom, AF Bulgin and Company, Cambridge Instruments Company, Capital Radio, Davy Corporation, TLM Ericsson, Hanover Druce, T. Locker, Plessey Company, River and Mercantile Trust, Royal Insurance Group, Shires Investment, Trevian Holdings, Ultramar, Witan Investment Company, Young and Company, 600 Group.

Finals: Australian Investment Trust, Burton Group, Jessups, Morland and Company, Personal Asset Trust, Westpac Banking Corporation.

FRIDAY

British Gas half-time figures to end-September are for the less important summer months. The oils team at BZW expects £65 million of historic cost net income, down from £73 million. With broadly similar weather in the two halves and underlying volume growth of about 2 per cent, the drop is put down to lower gas prices, which fell about 2 per cent to 3 per cent.

The City is looking for some comment from British Gas about the recent criticism of its pricing policies by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Interims: British Gas, Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers, UPL Group.

Finals: British Empire Securities and General Trust, Govett Atlantic Investment Trust.

Martin Waller and Geoffrey Foster

ECONOMIC VIEW

The argument against a fall in the dollar

For at least six months, economic policy-making at the international level has been put on hold by the US presidential election. Now that the US electorate has made its decision, markets seem to be taking matters into their own hands.

Last week the dollar fell five pence. It may pick up in the next few days before the US trade figures on Wednesday, which are generally expected to be better than the previous month's, but the pressures will probably resume later.

Today's meeting of the Economic Policy Committee of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development is likely to remind its chairman, Beryl Sprinkel, also chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, of the pressing need to cut back domestic demand in the US. In the margins of the meeting the bigger players will be discussing co-ordination of tactics in defence of the dollar.

But Mr Sprinkel is not in a position to promise much. Not only is the new president not yet in office, but Mr Sprinkel is not expected to remain at the head of the CEA. Favourite to succeed him is Professor Michael Boskin, an academic from Stanford. It remains to be seen whether Professor Boskin, or whoever is appointed, can revive the influence of the Council which lost out to the Treasury under President Reagan.

Meanwhile the market has evidently concluded that very little is to be expected from George Bush, the President-elect, in terms of cutting the budget deficit. No one should expect specific pledges on tax increases or spending cuts during an election campaign, but Mr Bush's determination to eschew tax increases while keeping spending curbs resolutely unspecified does not inspire confidence.

Some of the other members of the Group of Seven seem to have reached the same conclusion that little progress is likely to be made in reducing the budget deficit. If this is so then the burden of defending the dollar is likely to fall back on monetary policy. In a precautionary speech on Friday, Helmut Schlesinger, the hardline vice president of the Bundesbank, made clear that should mean higher rates in the US rather than lower rates in Europe and Japan. It would be unacceptable, he said, if West Germany were to let inflation rise for the sake of international co-operation.

How right are the markets to conclude that another devaluation of the dollar is inevitable? Certainly the improvement in the US trade position seen earlier this year has slowed down. Herr Schlesinger commented that the process of reducing Germany's current account surplus had come to an end, while the latest Japanese trade figures

published last week could suggest the same may be true of Japan. However, it is Germany's European trading partners, including Britain, and the South-east Asian economies in the case of Japan, which are on the other end of this improvement, not the US. Some informed observers, such as Gerald Hollham of Shearson Lehman, for instance, are still looking for a further reduction in the US trade deficit next year — perhaps of \$20 billion — on the basis of the boost to competitiveness from the existing fall in the dollar.

No doubt a further fall will be necessary at some time. If he waits long enough, Martin Feldstein is almost bound to be right. But it is not at all clear that it makes sense just at the moment. All the evidence is that the US economy is still operating close to capacity. In those circumstances a fall in the dollar is irrelevant. It could not possibly reduce the trade deficit, but would simply be inflationary.

This suggests the Federal Reserve may well be more active this week than last. Some tightening of interest rates and a crack of the whip in the currency markets would do a lot to steady the dollar. It will then be up to Mr Bush to tell the world a little more than he has so far about what he intends.

Fiscal nonsense

The cover may be different, but the thoughts are no less provocative in Alan Budd's first commentary in his new role as economic adviser to Barclays Bank.

It is nonsense to say, as so many have, that the Government should rely more on fiscal policy and less on monetary policy, says Professor Budd. Interest rates have become an increasingly effective weapon now that the personal sector is a net payer of interest, while the effect of tax changes is notoriously slow and uncertain. Given the length of the lags, the Government might well have to reverse its fiscal stance before the effects had even begun to show through. It is fiscal policy rather than monetary policy that is the blunt instrument.

Nor is it true that higher interest rates are likely to cut investment as well as consumption. Investment is funded to a greater extent than consumption by long-term finance, and long-term rates have been relatively unaffected by the rise in short-term rates.

In any case, so what if investment were to be cut? The only purpose of investment is to increase future consumption. It will not always be wrong to exchange deferred consumption for consumption now.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

Steel subsidies ruling next autumn

By Colin Narbrough

The European Court of Justice expects to deliver its ruling next autumn on £930 million of "illegal" and "excessive" subsidies to British Steel, possibly before the second instalment on the privatization issue is due on September 26.

The Government and British Steel have been dismissive of the proceedings, initiated in July by the West German Iron and Steel Federation, whose private sector members are furious about the amount of public funds used to prepare British Steel for flotation.

The Germans claim that

£217 million was paid without EEC authorization, while £713 million was awarded which was not demonstrably needed for restructuring.

Presenting British Steel's pathfinder prospectus, Lord Young of Graham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said he was "extremely confident" about the lawsuit having no effect on British Steel, as too was the European Commission, the authority which approved the aid.

But he failed to make clear that the Commission is the defendant — not British Steel — and that the European

Court could still rule that Brussels' decisions on aid paid from 1983 to 1985 were illegal.

The prospectus states that if the court did annul Brussels' decisions, "the Commission might be required to reconsider the aid in question and then direct HM Government to recover from British Steel all or part of any amount of aid found to be in contravention of the State Aid Code."

The Government's legal advisers consider the action unlikely to succeed, or, if it does, that the Commission is unlikely to seek repayment. If repayment is sought, they believe the Government and

British Steel, will have valid defences based on their "legitimate expectations" and the time which has elapsed.

While describing as "remote" the possibility of any loss to British Steel from being forced to repay, the prospectus says "it is not possible to give any assurances as to the ultimate outcome of the Federal proceedings or the amount of any possible liability on the part of British Steel."

The case is at the written stage. Oral proceedings will probably be in the spring or summer. An opinion from the Advocate General would follow within three months, with a final ruling in the autumn.

AG plans listing on USM

By Colin Campbell

African Gold, the mineral company formed in 1987, is planning to seek a USM quotation on the London Stock Exchange this year.

The company's shares are currently traded in London under Rule 535 (2) — effectively over-the-counter — at about 11p each.

Senior executives from Zimbabwe, the centre of African Gold's interests, are to update this week the London mining community about the company's exploration hopes.

These include opportunities in African countries other than Zimbabwe.

Since formation, African Gold has raised £928,478 via three private placements. At the July 31 balance sheet date, the company had cash holdings of £739,000.

Kenmare Resources, the Irish exploration company, has a 13.2 per cent stake in African Gold.

Norton holders to decide on US purchase and share offer

By Martin Waller

Shareholders in the Norton Group, the British motorcycle and aero engine manufacturer, will vote today on the company's largest acquisition since its fortunes began to revive under Mr Philippe Le Roux, its current chief executive.

The poll on the acquisition of Pro-Fit Piping Components of the US, which is accompanied by an open offer of 60 million shares, comes at an intriguing time for the company.

For Mr Le Roux says he has had an approach, on unacceptable terms, from Jarden Morgan, an Australian investment group which is interested in buying Norton.

Jarden is thought to have a stake of perhaps 3-4 per cent in Norton. Mr Le Roux considers that he has the support of as many as 40 per cent of existing shareholders for the acquisition.

Norton is currently traded



Australian interest: Le Roux

on the Third Market. Mr Le Roux says he recognizes the disadvantages this entails in bringing in institutional shareholders and is aiming for a full listing next spring, perhaps to coincide with the company's full-year figures for 1988, which on a merger-accounted basis should show a profit.

But similar promises to the long-suffering shareholders

have been disappointed in the past. Mr Le Roux went for a USM float this year only to fall foul of the Stock Exchange, which was worried, he thinks, about the lack of continuity of management.

Norton's tangled corporate history has not been simplified by recent disposals and board changes. The core of the business is the manufacture of rotary engines, invented by the late Dr Felix Wankel.

As well as going into motorcycles, the specialist engines, which are virtually vibration-free, are currently used in pilotless drone aircraft for target practice or observation duties.

Mr Le Roux sees military forces as an important customer in future — the company has recently won a £2 million research contract from the United States armed forces.

Keeper turned poacher

One lot who are bullish about job prospects in the City when all about them are full of rumours about a crop of redundancies coming before Christmas are, needless to say, the head hunters. Noël de Berry of Noel Alexander Associates — which specializes in employment for banks and securities houses — delights in reminding people that, in fact, last year more staff were hired than fired in the securities industry. De Berry has also managed to turn one gamekeeper into a poacher. Eighteen months after he quit Barclays de Zoete Wedd where he was a director, Andrew Pye has joined Noel Alexander where he often they specialize in recruiting for capital markets. This was his old hunting ground where he spent 15 years at houses including Credit Suisse First Boston, Merrill Lynch and Mitsubishi Finance. After he left BZW in February 1987, a spell of "gardening leave" followed while Pye watched equities follow glits into a downward spin. He then joined Tom Kerrigan, a former CSFB head hunter and finally joined forces with Noël Alexander last week on the US Election Day. "The worst thing about leaving the City is, I suppose, losing the car. I had an Audi Quattro Estate, now it's a old Beetle," he said. Pye is optimistic that as one door closes in the jobs field another one opens. I dare say there are many who hope he is right.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

No float for Nomura

Nomura International cancelled its float and stand of 168 seats, booked for the Lord Mayor's Show in the City on Saturday, in deference to the precarious state of the Emperor's health. The Japanese-owned firm asked the pageant master six weeks ago to redistribute as many of the seats as possible and the float, due to depict coins of every country's currency where No-

mura has an office, never saw the light of day. While some of the British staff in the Lobdon office attended the show, with their guests, for Sir Christopher Collett, the new Lord Mayor, the Japanese employees felt such a display would reflect badly on the company's image back home. For the show, amazingly, is shown on Japanese television and written up in local newspapers.

Footloose

Meanwhile, for those depressed about having to change jobs more often they think is good for them, I hear recruitment agencies believe that large companies are now better disposed towards "footloose" recruits. They no longer dismiss as feckless those who have experience in several companies and a couple of industries. Cradle-to-grave employment is a thing of the past and companies are used to staff moving in and out of their employ. Tell that to the Japanese.

Wall St is always quick off the mark turning national disasters into jokes. Its latest gag compares Dan Quayle, the Vice-President-elect, with a zero coupon bond — totally lacking in interest and with no hope of ever reaching maturity.

Case study

The move by Alain Chevalier, president of Moët-Hennessy Louis Vuitton, to list his company's shares on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, is rather like taking the mountain to Muhammad, as the Japanese buy about half of all the fancy French leather goods made by Louis Vuitton — which joined forces with the French cognac and champagne house Moët-Hennessy a year ago. Stay-at-home Japanese buy 30 per cent of Louis Vuitton's output, and Chevalier reckons that, when you add on the goods bought by Japanese tourists abroad, Japan's share reaches about 30 per cent. And it would be higher still if there were not illegal street hawkers selling tacky imitation Louis Vuitton bags on virtually every Tokyo street corner. No doubt Chevalier came across these alternative stock transactions on his recent tour through Tokyo.

Monkey business

The senior management of Smith New Court, the securities house, and clients, were living it up in the grand surroundings of the Chalmers Room at the House of Lords at the weekend. The reception was designed not only to bring together the Smith New Court divisions but also to extend clients' awareness of the growth of Smith's activities. It was not all fun and games, however, as apart from an address by Michael Marks, Smith New Court's chief executive, Roger Nightingale, the firm's economist, treated guests to his view of the world economy in the light of George Bush's election. The reception was organized by Anthony St John, aged 31, known in the Upper House as Lord St John of Bletso, but at Smith New Court as the man who co-ordinates the selling of UK equities to Japanese institutions. The choice of room was particularly appropriate as Chalmers is Anthony St John's nickname — there is a monkey called Chalmers at St John in one of Gerald Durrell's books.

Rosemary Unsworth

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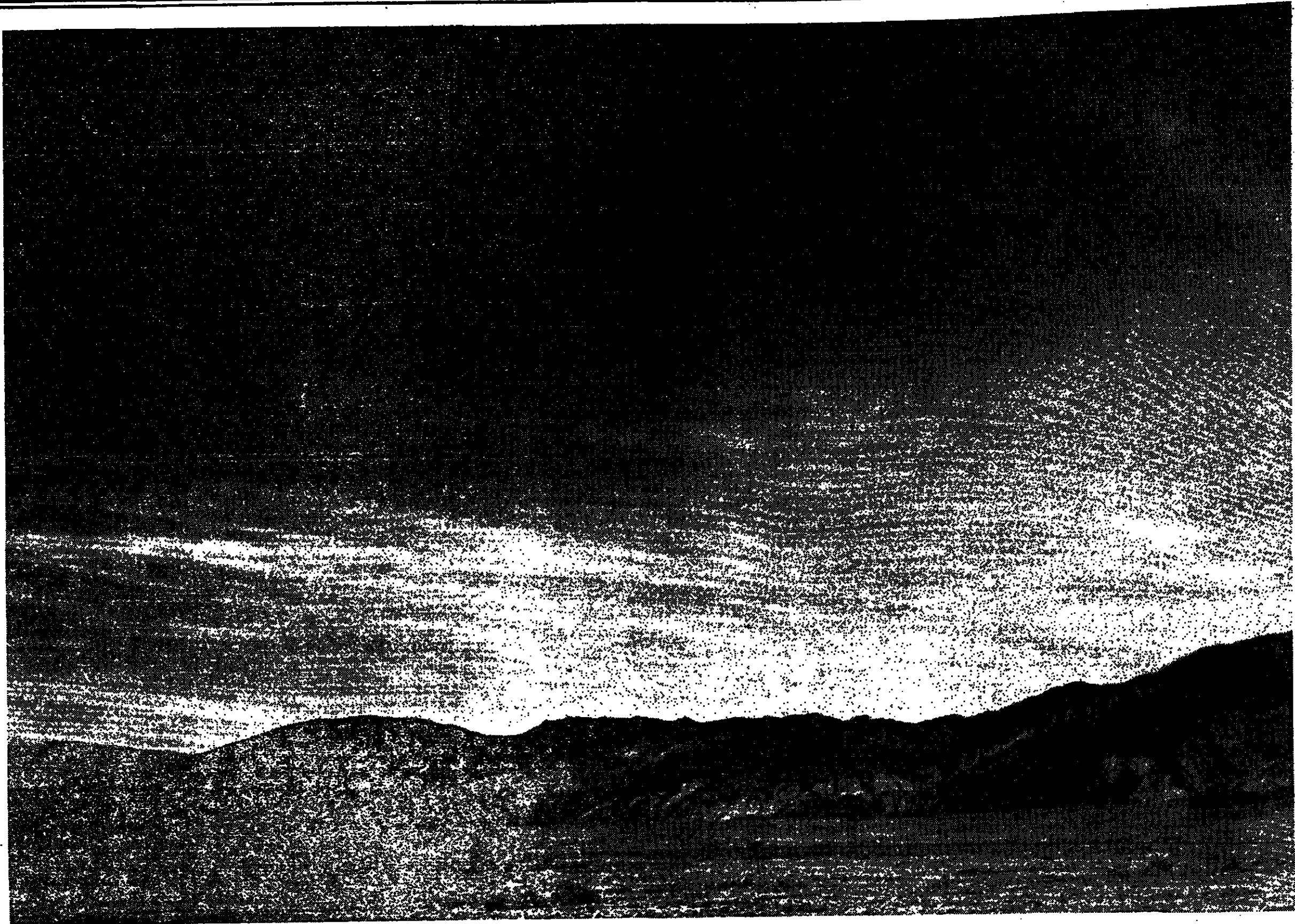
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Birmingham City Council, Economic Development Unit, Development Department, Room 107, Baskerville House, Broad Street, Birmingham B1 2NA.



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No.	Company	Group	Share Price
1	AAAF Inv	Industrials A-D	1.10
2	Peasant Prop	Property	1.10
3	Desovter	Industrials A-D	1.10
4	LWT Hldg	Leisure	1.10
5	Buckley	Breweries	1.10
6	Day Motors	Motors/Aircraft	1.10
7	Search 10p (sa)	Paper/Print/Adv	1.10
8	Cook (Wm)	Industrials A-D	1.10
9	Powerscreen	Industrials L-R	1.10
10	Optical & Med	Industrials L-R	1.10
11	Whitbread 'A' (sa)	Breweries	1.10
12	Chemicals/Plas	Chemicals/Plastics	1.10
13	Scott & Robertson	Industrials S-Z	1.10
14	Vital	Drugs/Pharm	1.10
15	Tottenham Hoop	Leisure	1.10
16	Johnson Marley	Industrials E-K	1.10
17	Motorway	Industrials L-R	1.10
18	Peasants	Leisure	1.10
19	Voics	Electronics	1.10
20	BRF	Motors/Aircraft	1.10
21	TVS	Leisure	1.10
22	Yorkshire Chem	Chemicals/Plastics	1.10
23	Garcon Gas	Industrials E-K	1.10
24	RMC Co (sa)	Building/Roads	1.10
25	Overseas Abroad	Leisure	1.10
26	Underwoods	Drugs/Pharm	1.10
27	Exp Comp Louisiana	Oil/Gas	1.10
28	Suffolk Spkman	Chemicals/Plastics	1.10
29	Ruscom (Walter)	Shipping	1.10
30	Alumac	Industrials A-D	1.10
31	Sci TV	Leisure	1.10
32	Western Selection	Electronics	1.10
33	Hammerston	Property	1.10
34	NEI	Electronics	1.10
35	Cape Ind	Industrials A-D	1.10
36	Ne-Gulf Inds	Industrials L-R	1.10
37	Bowditch	Property	1.10
38	BAA (sa)	Industrials A-D	1.10
39	Moulding	Property	1.10
40	First Leisure	Leisure	1.10
41	Anglia Sec	Building/Roads	1.10
42	Conder Grp	Building/Roads	1.10
43	As New Z	Bank/Discount	1.10
44	Woodside	Oil/Gas	1.10

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Total

BRITISH FUNDS

Shorts (Under Five Years)

2000s	1000s	500s	250s	125s	62.5s	31.25s
1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

2000s	1000s	500s	250s	125s	62.5s	31.25s
1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

2000s	1000s	500s	250s	125s	62.5s	31.25s
1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s

UNDATED

2000s	1000s	500s	250s	125s	62.5s	31.25s
1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s

INDEX LINKED

2000s	1000s	500s	250s	125s	62.5s	31.25s
1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

2000s	1000s	500s	250s	125s	62.5s	31.25s
1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s

ELECTRICIANS

2000s	1000s	500s	250s	125s	62.5s	31.25s
1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s	1000s

Capitalization and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today, Dealings end November 25, Contango day November 28, Settlement day December 5.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (sa) denotes Alpha Stocks.

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
AAAF Inv	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Peasant Prop	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Desovter	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
LWT Hldg	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Buckley	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Day Motors	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Search 10p (sa)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Cook (Wm)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Powerscreen	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Optical & Med	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
Whitbread 'A' (sa)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Chemicals/Plas	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Scott & Robertson	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Vital	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Tottenham Hoop	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Johnson Marley	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Motorway	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Peasants	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Voics	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
BRF	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
Yorkshire Chem	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Garcon Gas	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
RMC Co (sa)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Overseas Abroad	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Underwoods	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Exp Comp Louisiana	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Suffolk Spkman	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Ruscom (Walter)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Alumac	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Sci TV	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
Western Selection	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Hammerston	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
NEI	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Cape Ind	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Ne-Gulf Inds	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Bowditch	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
BAA (sa)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Moulding	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
First Leisure	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Anglia Sec	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
Conder Grp	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
As New Z	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Woodside	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
AAAF Inv	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Peasant Prop	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Desovter	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
LWT Hldg	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Buckley	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Day Motors	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Search 10p (sa)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22

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Cook (Wm)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Powerscreen	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Optical & Med	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Whitbread 'A' (sa)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Chemicals/Plas	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Scott & Robertson	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Vital	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Tottenham Hoop	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Johnson Marley	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Motorway	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
Peasants	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Voics	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
BRF	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
TVS	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Yorkshire Chem	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Garcon Gas	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
RMC Co (sa)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Overseas Abroad	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Underwoods	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Exp Comp Louisiana	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
Suffolk Spkman	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Ruscom (Walter)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Alumac	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Sci TV	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Western Selection	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Hammerston	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
NEI	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Cape Ind	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Ne-Gulf Inds	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Bowditch	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
BAA (sa)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Moulding	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
First Leisure	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Anglia Sec	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Conder Grp	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
As New Z	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Woodside	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
AAAF Inv	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Peasant Prop	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Desovter	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22

Company	Price	Change	Dividend	Yield	P/E
LWT Hldg	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Buckley	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Day Motors	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Search 10p (sa)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Cook (Wm)	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
Powerscreen	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22
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Optical & Med	1.10	0.01	0.01	0.91	12.22

181.50	Farnell S&A	1.44	-0.01	1.3	11.1
181.50	Wentworth	1.44	-0.01	1.3	11.1
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House of Lords

Allowances reduce damages award

Hodgson v Trapp and Another
Before Lord Mackay of Clashfern, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Oliver of Aylmerton and Lord Goff of Chieveley

[Judgment November 10]
When assessing damages for personal injuries to meet the past and future cost of providing for the appropriate care of the plaintiff, a deduction should be made in respect of any attendance payable to the plaintiff pursuant to sections 35 and 37A of the Social Security Act 1975.

Having assessed the appropriate multiplicands for future loss of care and future loss of earnings the judge should not increase the multiplicands to take account of the incidence of higher rate taxation likely to be attracted by interest on the capital sum of the award.

The House of Lords so held in granting an appeal by the defendant, Maurice Trapp and Stratford-upon-Avon District Council, against an award of damages by Mr Justice Taylor in favour of the plaintiff, Christine Hodgson, who sued by her husband and next friend, Keith Elliot Hodgson. The quantum of damages awarded was reduced accordingly.

Mr Piers Ashworth, QC and Mr William Pusey for the defendant appellants; Mr Robin Stewart, QC and Mr Michael Heywood for the plaintiff. LORD BRIDGE said that two distinct points of law arose for determination.

First, in assessing damages to meet the expenses, past and future, of providing for the appropriate care of the plaintiff, the judge made no deduction in respect of the attendance and mobility allowances payable to the plaintiff holding himself bound to disregard those allowances by *Bowker v Rose* (The Times February 3, 1978) and *Gohery v Durham County Council* (unreported, CA, April 26, 1978). On the first point the present appeal was an invitation to the House to reverse those decisions.

Second, having assessed the multiplicands for future cost of care and future loss of earnings and indicated that he considered multiplicands of 13 and 11 respec-

tively to be appropriate, the judge increased the multiplicands to 14 and 12 to take account of the incidence of higher rates of taxation likely to be attracted by interest on the capital sum of the award.

That was the course approved by the Court of Appeal in *Thomas v Wignall* [(1987) QB 1098] and the correctness of that decision was now called into question.

His Lordship considered the first point.

If, in consequence of the injuries sustained, the plaintiff enjoyed receipts to which he would not otherwise have been entitled, *prima facie*, those receipts were to be set against the aggregate of the plaintiff's losses and expenses in arriving at the measure of his damages.

To that basic rule there were certain well established exceptions of which the classic heads were (1) money accruing to the injured plaintiff under policies of insurance for which he had paid the premiums, and (2) moneys received by the plaintiff from the bounty or benevolence of the third parties motivated by sympathy for his misfortune.

The main support for the view that statutory benefits in aid of those in need should be disregarded in assessing damages as being a form of public benevolence came from a passage in the speech of Lord Reid in *Parry v Cleaver* [(1970) AC 1, 14].

His Lordship could discern no general principle to support Lord Reid's tentative opinion "that Parliament did not intend them to be for the benefit of the wrongdoer".

The Court of Appeal in *Lincoln v Hayman* [(1982) 1 WLR 488] held that supplementary benefit paid to the plaintiff in a personal injury action was to be set off against his loss of earnings in assessing special damages.

Counsel for the respondent sought to distinguish that decision on the ground that payments from public funds to provide the indigent with a minimum acceptable level of subsistence were essentially different in kind from payments to meet the needs of those suffering from particular disabilities. There was no rational basis for that distinction.

In the end the issue was not so much one of statutory construction as of public policy. Having regard to the realities, awards of damages for personal injuries were the identical expenses to premiums payable by motorists and others. Statutory benefits payable to those in need by reason of incapacity or disability were met by the taxpayer.

In that context to ask whether the taxpayer, as "benefactor", intended to benefit "the wrongdoer" as represented by the insurer who met the claim at the expense of the appropriate class of policy holders, was entirely artificial.

There could hardly be a clearer case than that of the attendance allowance payable under section 35 of the 1975 Act where the statutory benefit and the special damages claimed for cost of care were designed to meet the identical expense. To allow double recovery in such a case at the expense of both taxpayers and insurers seemed incapable of justification on any rational ground.

A separate and subordinate point was raised by Benjamin Franklin observed, one of the two certainties of life, but the extent and manner of its execution in the future could only be guessed at. It was as much an imponderable as any of the other uncertainties which were embraced in the exercise of making a just assessment of damages for future loss.

It was submitted that only the specific sum in the award of damages which was referable to the provision of transport for the plaintiff should be deducted in respect of mobility allowance.

His Lordship was unable to read the phrase "benefactor" in section 37A(2)(b) of the 1975 Act in the narrow and restricted sense necessary to support that submission.

There was no doubt that the plaintiff qualified for the full mobility allowance on the footing that her condition permitted her to benefit from such enhanced facilities. The facilities might take a variety of forms and would certainly include whatever outings were provided for her by those who cared for her.

There was no reason why the whole of the mobility allowance should not be regarded, just as the attendance allowance, as available to meet the cost of her care generally and thus mitigating the damages recoverable in respect of the cost of that care.

It followed that *Bowker v Rose* and *Gohery v Durham County Council* were wrongly decided and should be overruled.

On the second point his Lordship agreed with Lord Oliver.

LORD OLIVER said that he agreed with Lord Bridge on the first ground of appeal. The second ground of appeal raised a quite distinct issue.

The appellants did not challenge the general proposition that the prospective incidence of higher rate income tax might, in exceptional circumstances, be a

factor which could legitimately tip the scales in favour of selecting a multiplier at the higher end of the conventional scale.

They did, however, challenge the correctness of an approach which involved, after the calculation of an appropriate multiplier in accordance with the conventional scale, the making of a specific addition to the multiplier in order to take account as a separate and individual feature, of the higher taxation rates which might be attracted by the income likely to be produced by the investment of a very substantial award.

His Lordship was content to deal with the question on the footing that the answer was not already subsumed in the answer given by the House in *Lim Poh Shoo v Camden and Islington Health Authority* [(1980) AC 174] to the allied question of whether specific allowance should be made for inflation. The principle, however, was much the same.

That tax would be levied was no doubt, as Benjamin Franklin observed, one of the two certainties of life, but the extent and manner of its execution in the future could only be guessed at. It was as much an imponderable as any of the other uncertainties which were embraced in the exercise of making a just assessment of damages for future loss.

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Regina v Panayi
Before Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice Bush and Mr Justice Slynn

[Judgment October 31]
The mens rea for an offence contrary to section 170(2) of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 required a specific intent to be knowingly concerned in any fraudulent evasion of a prohibition, and it was not possible in such a case to equate recklessness with knowledge or general intent.

Their Lordships so held when allowing the appeals of Michael Panayi and Klaus Karte against their convictions (Karte by a majority) on October 23, 1987 in Southampton Crown Court (Judge Tucker, QC and a jury) of being knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of the prohibition on the importation of a Class B controlled drug (count 1 of the indictment) on which Panayi was sentenced to nine years' imprisonment and Karte to six years' imprisonment.

Section 3(1) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1973 provides: "the importation of a controlled drug . . . (is) hereby prohibited".

Section 170(2) of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 provides: "if any person is, in relation to any goods, in any way knowingly concerned in any fraudulent evasion or attempt at evasion of any prohibition or restriction for the time being in force with respect to the goods . . . he shall be guilty of an offence".

Mr Roderick Price, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellants; Mr Philip Sapsford, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE BUSH said that on November 26, 1986 in Southampton Crown Court, after the failure of a defence submission of no case to answer, the appellants had changed their pleas and pleaded guilty to assisting in the UK in the commission of an offence outside the UK (count 2 in the indictment).

On July 10, 1987 the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) set aside the convictions and gave leave for the prosecution to proceed on count 1 (The Times July 24, 1987).

It was against their convictions at the second trial that the appellants now appealed. Karte meanwhile had escaped from custody and was back in Holland, but their Lordships had agreed to hear his appeal.

The appellants were professional drug smugglers. On June 26, 1986 they were arrested on board the yacht *Elbis* (owned by Panayi) after it was stopped by customs officers inside UK territorial waters, 1.1 nautical

miles from Culver Cliff, Isle of Wight.

A total of 690kg of the class B drug, cannabis resin, was found on board. It was said to be worth £1.3 million.

The drugs had been loaded in Spain, and it was the appellants' case that the consignment was to be delivered in Holland and, most importantly, that their presence in the yacht in UK territorial waters was not a deliberate act but the result of contrary winds and tides and navigational errors.

The prosecution's real case was and always had been that the appellants' intent was to land the cannabis in England. There was ample evidence from which a jury might have found that that was their intention.

However, the judge was persuaded to accept a totally spurious argument put forward by the defence to the effect that in sending back the first count for trial the Court of Appeal had intended that the prosecution must put forward its case on the footing that the true destination of the drugs was Holland.

That argument was based shakily upon the fact that at and during the first trial the prosecution had accepted a plea of guilty to the second count which in any event, as it transpired subsequently, was wrong in law.

Such an argument was clearly faulty and should never have been advanced to the court, much less accepted. It was not for the court, even if pressed by the defence, to direct the prosecution how it should present its case.

It followed that at the second trial the prosecution was labouring under an unnecessary handicap and the jury were not asked to decide what was the real intended destination of the goods.

For the purposes of the statute it was accepted at the trial, and rightly, that the importation was complete once the yacht had

come into the Port of Solent.

The trial judge had erred that this was a fit case for appeal on the question whether the mens rea for an offence contrary to section 170(2) of the 1979 Act was satisfied by the direction of the prosecution must prove no more than that:

- (1) the defendant knew he was carrying drugs;
 - (2) knew that the importation of drugs was contrary to British law;
 - (3) entered British territorial waters;
 - (4) knew that he was running the risk, in the circumstances then prevailing, of coming into British territorial waters, and nonetheless went on to take that risk.
- (1), (2) and (3) were conceded. It was submitted for the appellants that two elements were missing from the judge's direction.

First, the element of dishonesty, which the use of the word "fraudulent" in the subsection imported. The second was that of knowledge that they were entering UK territorial waters and thereby importing cannabis.

Their Lordships took the view that the statute was clear in its terms, and that what the prosecution had to prove was that the accused were knowingly concerned in any fraudulent or attempted fraudulent evasion.

In simple terms, they could not be knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion unless they intended dishonestly to evade the restriction. They could not knowingly be involved in the evasion if one of the essential ingredients, namely the fact that they were within UK territorial waters, was unknown to them, provided of course that they never had any intention of entering UK territorial waters.

Although it was possible in some cases to equate recklessness with knowledge or general intent it could not be done in

this kind of case where the specific intent was required of being knowingly concerned in any fraudulent evasion.

In any event the judge seemed to have directed the jury that it was something less than recklessness, taking a risk - a form of criminal negligence - that was required.

Although as professional smugglers the appellants could be regarded as pretty dishonest men, their dishonesty had to relate on these facts to the specific offence with which they were charged.

However suspicious one might be of the fact that these professionals, with an expensive yacht and up-to-date navigational aids, got themselves into navigational difficulties, the fact remained that if they did not intend to import the goods and to evade the prohibition, not all the negligence in the world or the negligence would justify a finding of intention and the necessary mens rea in the circumstances appertaining to this case.

A good deal of time and money had been expended on the case by way of trial and appeals. It seemed to their Lordships unfortunate that at least as an alternative the appellants were not charged with simple possession under section 3(2) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1973.

Then it would not have mattered how the appellants and their yacht came to be in UK territorial waters and there could have been no defence to such a charge, which carried on indictment a maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment.

In the premises there had been a clear misdirection. It was not an appropriate case in which to apply the proviso, and accordingly the convictions of both appellants would be quashed.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

Committal appeal delay deplored

Mesham v Clarke
Before Lord Justice Kerr and Lord Justice Mann

[Judgment November 2]
An appeal against an order committing a person to prison for contempt of court, being a matter involving the liberty of the subject, should be brought on for hearing quickly.

The Court of Appeal so stated in dismissing an appeal by Joseph Stanley Clarke from Judge Lloyd-Jones at Chester County Court who had committed him to prison for two years for contempt of court following breaches of non-molestation and exclusion orders made against him on the application of Janet Mesham.

Mr Duncan Bould for Mr Clarke: the applicant was not present and not represented.

LORD JUSTICE KERR said

that the order committing Mr Clarke to prison had been made on February 23, 1988. He had thereafter applied to the judge to purge his contempt, but that application had been refused.

Nevertheless the same judge had, on April 15, given him leave to appeal out of time. He had filed his notice of appeal on April 28 giving as the ground of the appeal that in all the circumstances the sentence imposed by the judge had been excessive.

His Lordship, directing his remarks to the listing office of the Court of Appeal, Civil Division and to the Registrar of Civil Appeals, said that he failed to understand why a notice of appeal against a sentence of imprisonment for contempt of court which had been filed on April 24 had only resulted in a hearing before the Court of Appeal on November 2.

Mr Bould said that it was only in June that the case had come into the Warden List, and that it simply did not come on for hearing earlier.

Those instructing counsel should have drawn the Registrar's attention to the fact that the appeal concerned the liberty of the subject. Whether or not they did so, it was utterly wrong in his Lordship's view, that the delay should have occurred.

Such a matter must come on quickly and steps should be taken to see if a notice of appeal disclosed a matter of the present kind, so that such cases could be brought on as soon as possible.

LORD JUSTICE MANN said that he shared Lord Justice Kerr's dismay at the period it had taken for the appeal to come on for hearing.

Solicitors: Lovell Son & Pittfield for Philip Jones, Hilary & Jackson, Chester.

Convention not apt

Marc Rich & Co AG v Societa Italiana Impianti PA

A contract between an Italian company and a British company in which there was a dispute as to the existence of an arbitration clause was one to which the Brussels Convention (enacted by the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982) did not apply.

Article 1(4) of the Convention excluded arbitration from its scope and the court was therefore not deprived of jurisdiction to grant the plaintiff company

leave to serve an originating summons on the defendant outside the jurisdiction under Order 73, rule 7(1) of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

Mr Justice Hirst so held in the Queen's Bench Division on November 3 in dismissing an application by the defendants to set aside such an order granted *ex parte* by his Lordship on May 19.

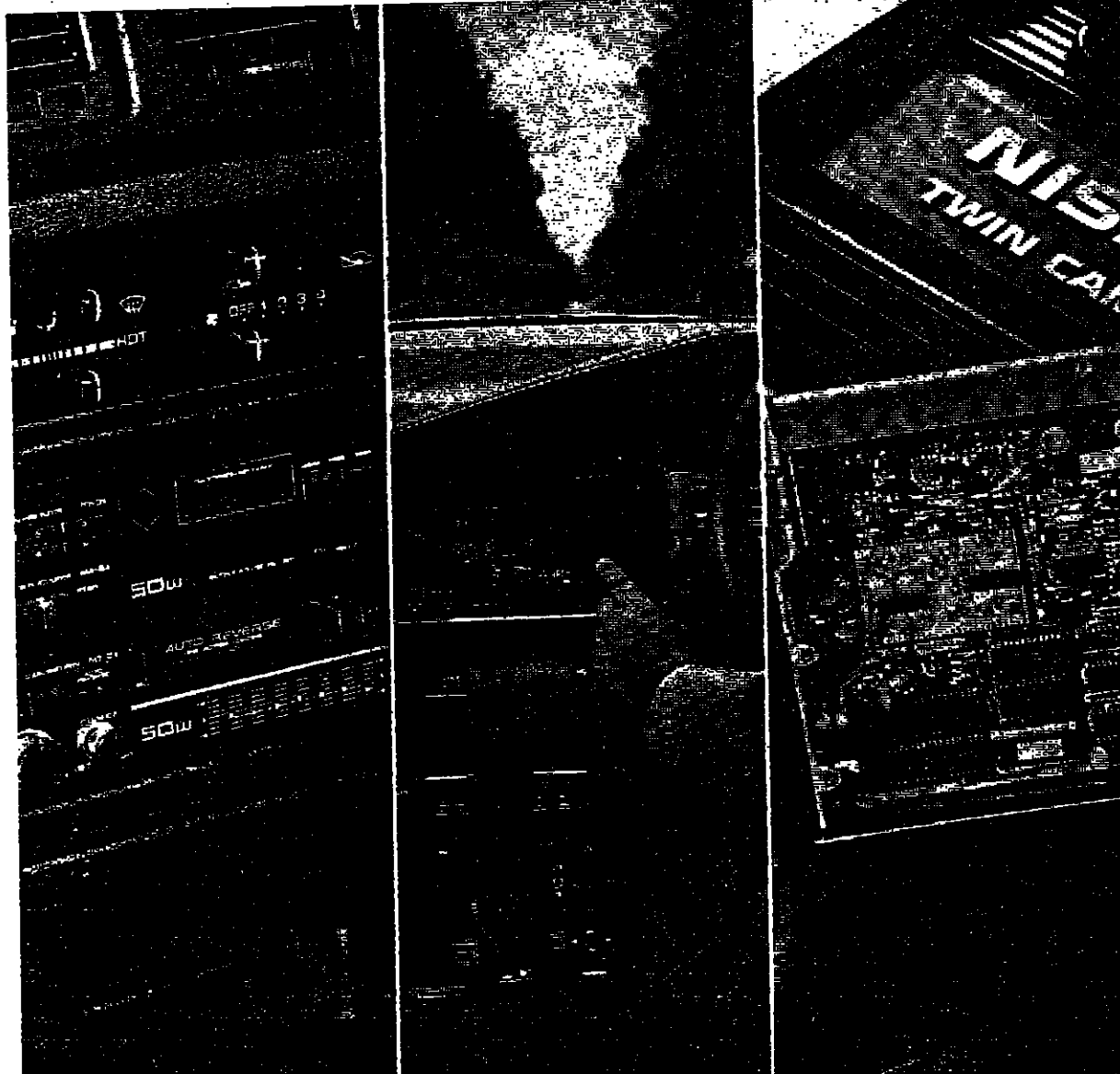
HIS LORDSHIP said that "arbitration" covered all connected matters including questions as to the initial validity of the alleged arbitration clause.

On the second point his Lordship agreed with Lord Oliver.

LORD OLIVER said that he agreed with Lord Bridge on the first ground of appeal. The second ground of appeal raised a quite distinct issue.

The appellants did not challenge the general proposition that the prospective incidence of higher rate income tax might, in exceptional circumstances, be a

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Brains and good business

The Government clampdown on university funding has forced a liaison between the academics and industry — a blending of skills now worth many millions a year

John Hermon-Taylor, professor of surgery at London's St George's Hospital Medical School, is a cautious man. He and his younger brother, Richard, who have just won *The Times* Barclays Bank Innovator of the Year Award, have not bet their shirts on the company they have set up to exploit John's invention — a biochemical kit which will help give an early diagnosis of pancreatitis.

"But," they admit, "we've bet just about the whole of the shirt except the collar."

For good measure their father, himself once a distinguished surgeon, has chipped in a modest way. Professor Hermon-Taylor is an abdominal specialist, Richard a business consultant. John could paper his wall with the degrees and academic awards he has won, not to mention nearly 90 published scientific papers. He defers intellectually to his brother, who graduated top of his intake at Harvard Business School.

Both brothers went to the US in 1968, Richard to Harvard, John to study gastrointestinal physiology at the Mayo Clinic. Richard stayed to become a business consultant, John returned to the UK

RUNNER-UP

The runner-up in the Innovator of the Year award was: Elmag Ltd (Mark Ellis, secretary) — non-impact printing. Also on the short list were: Optimised Control Ltd — design of d.c. servo motor controllers;

M. V. Scientific Services Ltd — high energy ion implantations for compound semiconductors; Multilite Ltd — measurement of biological substances;

the next year to establish himself as a surgeon, so their paths remained quite separate... until two years ago when they had what turned out to be a very important conversation at their father's house near Chichester.

John had just filed patents on his new method of diagnosing and predicting the severity of pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas gland). Richard, who had just branched out on his own after 16 years with the Boston Consulting Group, suggested that he might explore ways of commercializing the invention. The result was BioScience International, which is just about to spawn a UK sister company, BioScience International UK.

Kendrick Hutchinson, the engineer who acted as technical assessor to *The Times*/Barclays panel of judges, says he was certain almost as soon as he stepped into Professor Hermon-Taylor's lab that this was the winner.

He explained: "He smacked off professionalism all the way down the line." The winning package had three elements very attractive to Mr Hutchinson: it was a piece of clever science, it was being applied in a way that would make diagnosis remarkably simple and its commercial potential was enormous.

Clinical trials carried out in conjunction with Glasgow University show that the diagnostic test is very accurate. A sample of urine taken from somebody admitted to hospital will tell with greater than 90 per cent accuracy whether they are going to develop a serious form of the disease or not. That has major implications for clinical practice.

Professor Hermon-Taylor said: "If the test is negative we



Professor John Hermon-Taylor, left, and brother Richard at St George's Hospital in London

have to send them to the intensive therapy unit, we don't have to do CAT scanning, we don't have to give them antibiotics and we save a lot of money."

Those who show up positive in the assay will need treatment. One great benefit of the test is that it tells the surgeons before the disease has reached its worst point.

Professor Hermon-Taylor has set the company up in such a way that the medical school will get a healthy proportion of any royalties flowing from the exploitation of the test. The corporation's Boston office has a lot going for it. It is located in, of all places, a converted church. Ring the number and you are answered by a young woman who rejoices in the name of Faith.

The Techmart Exhibition opens tomorrow at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, until Thursday, November 17. Hours: 10am to 6pm (Tuesday and Wednesday), 10am to 4pm (Thursday). Admission 25

How the method works

The diagnostic method is based on some pretty rarefied biochemistry, but Professor Hermon-Taylor describes it all with a handful of vivid similes and metaphors. The pancreas is the gland in the abdomen which secretes digestive enzymes.

Our digestive juices are very powerful. They contain enzymes which are highly active, the kind of thing people put in soap powders to digest stains off clothing. These are potentially dangerous molecules, so nature uses clever methods to minimize the dangers.

The active digestive enzyme molecules are produced in the pancreas but in an inactive form. When we eat, hormone signals tell the pancreas to secrete a watery fluid of these so called pre-cursor enzymes into the digestive tract.

When they reach the intestines another enzyme, which lines the intestine, activates the pre-cursor enzymes which then digest the food.

Some forms of pancreatitis occur when the digestive enzymes instead of being activated in the gut are activated in the pancreas itself. It is as though clouds of little chemical hand grenades were being disseminated round the body, says the professor.

"The problem for the doctors is: have they gone off? Have they been activated or not?"

For many years, says Professor Hermon-Taylor, research has concentrated on the "grenade" portion of the active enzyme, but,

for one reason or another, this has never worked out. So the professor and his St George's colleague Dr Brian Austin decided instead to search for the molecules which were the "pins" in the grenade, a peptide (or string of amino acids) which has been pulled out of the grenade, leaving the active "grenade" portion which damages the body's tissues and causes severe disease.

Instead of asking "Has the grenade gone off?" they substituted the question "Has the pin of the grenade been pulled out?" If it had then that meant the damage was about to be done.

The trick was to base their assay system on antibodies which would only recognize free "pins", that is those which had been pulled from the chemical grenades, making the grenades dangerous.

To do so they built synthetic "pins", injected them into a rabbit thereby producing antibodies to the pin, collected the antibodies and incorporated them in their test kit.

The scientists had to develop an antibody which would recognize the free pin, not the pin bound to the grenade. That meant developing a method in which the antibodies would recognize the end of the pin. That way the antibodies would only report free pins, not grenades which had not gone off. When the antibodies meet the patient's blood or urine they immediately signal whether there are any free "pins" in the samples.



Andrew Cavell, left, and Ken Hutchinson of Barclays Bank

Tips for going commercial

Andrew Cavell, manager of the high technology team at Barclays Bank London HQ, has three pieces of advice for scientists or engineers thinking of going into business.

First, be aware of the financial implications of all of your actions. It is no good thinking that you can jump from being a company with sales of £10,000 a year to sales of £1 million without having the capital resources. Growth brings cash problems.

You might well be making a fine profit on the £1 million sales, but if you cannot support the cash requirement in terms of stock, staff and the financing of debtors until they pay you, the business will run out of money and collapse.

Second, don't underestimate the cost of bringing a new product to the market. There is a rule of thumb which bankers know as the 1:3:10 rule. This states that it costs one unit of expenditure to produce a working prototype, three units to put it into a form acceptable to the market, and 10 units to build market awareness, set up a distribution network and get the product to the public.

Third, don't be a one-product company, otherwise you will probably have a very short-lived business. The trick is to have more than one product or to have a single product which can be enhanced, improved or varied as the market develops. The problem with one-product companies is that if the product is any good someone will copy it. If you can enhance it, you have some protection.

The Sony Walkman, says Mr Cavell, is the perfect example of a good high-tech product which took off. "Who

would have thought that people would want to walk around wearing earphones and listening to a tape? Sony actually had to persuade people that this was a desirable thing to do."

The Walkman had all sorts of potential for enhancement, and it has now been diversified into a radio and a compact disc player; different variations on a theme. "Sony quickly lost their exclusivity, so they had to adopt and adapt," says Mr Cavell.

One of the biggest commercial dodos around is another portable entertainment unit, the pocket TV set. "They've cracked the technology but haven't persuaded people that it's a sensible thing to have."

There is a fourth piece of advice which underpins the other three: ensure that you have a strong management.

Mr Cavell, whose backup unit helps the high-technology managers who have been put into 64 of its branches in the UK, says that high technology accounts have one big difference to ordinary accounts: things tend to happen very much more quickly.

"The rate of growth in a high-tech company can be phenomenal. The research and development can take quite some time, but the window of opportunity to sell it can be quite short."

Barclays tries to help scientists and engineers who have a good idea but may not have any business experience. It does not itself provide venture capital — it is not in the high risk business — but it will advise companies on where to find that kind of money and it will lend its own funds once the company is established.

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John Hermon-Taylor

FOCUS

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

Ideas into college funds

Before technology can be transferred, you have to find it. That can be a formidable undertaking. Dr David Thomas, chief executive of Impel, the technology transfer company set up by Imperial College, London, has a very big pool to fish in. Imperial, which is made up of four constituent colleges, has its books (most of whom are involved in research), nearly 700 research associates (very highly qualified scientists helping in research) and around 2,000 common-or-garden post-graduates doing MScs or PhDs.

Any or all of them could be harbouring, or maybe just conceptualizing, research which, if it found its way to market, could make money for the college and the researcher.

You cannot simply adopt an ad hoc approach to finding the potential winners among that lot.

Imperial was relatively late into the technology transfer business. In one sense that was because of its strengths. Less favoured institutions like Salford, which faced slashing budget cuts, had to get their houses in order or go under.

One way was to take the university to market. When, eventually, Imperial College decided it too must become more commercial it set up an organisation which would look very systematically at what was going on within its walls and get expert advice on how best to capitalise on it.

The result, in January 1987, was a new company Imperial Exploitation Ltd (Impel), a joint venture between the college, the venture capital company '3i' and the Research Corporation Ltd

the general run of research. Says Dr Thomas: "It's a bit like painting the Forth Bridge. You go around and around the college."

The audit has already covered the biophysics, biochemistry and chemistry departments and has done quite a bit of exploration in the physics and mechanical engineering departments. Dr Thomas reckons the whole process should have a cycle time of two or three years, so the departments he is looking at now will be revisited in the

that if the invention will make only a modest amount of money, the bulk will probably go to the researcher. But as you go further up the scale to the big money-earners, the college would expect to take the lion's share.

"If it were making millions I think the attitude the college would take is that the college should have the very major proportion of it," he says.

If the licensing or royalty agreements were going to bring in £10,000 that would hardly solve any of the col-

The message to academics is "When in doubt, ring us up. For example, says Dr Thomas, researchers are now warned that if they are planning to describe their invention at a scientific conference they must be very sure that they get a patent application in first."

If you think you have anything which is patentable then come and see us."

Copyright on computer programmes is another area where scientists need to get expert advice.

Has Imperial found any winners yet?

It is still early days, but a number of licensing possibilities are being examined. One of the most promising is one that Imperial inherited when St Mary's Hospital Medical School became one of its constituent colleges this summer. In 1987 the medical school had taken out a patent covering a group of DNA probes for the diagnosis of Cystic Fibrosis, a congenital disease, usually affecting young children, which is characterized by chronic infection of the respiratory tract. St Mary's asked Impel to arrange commercial licenses and one has just been signed with a major British company.

£10 million would be a very nice nest egg. The larger the sum, the higher the college's percentage.

(RCL), a Windsor-based company which specializes in professional services like technology assessment, patenting and invention licensing.

With their expert help Dr Thomas has set in train technical audits throughout the college. Thomas and RCL specialists, usually scientists or engineers who have a thorough knowledge of industry, grill all the senior academics in the various departments to see whether they can isolate potential commercial prospects from

early-1990s.

Though less than two years old, Impel has already taken out about 20 patents.

Dr Thomas adds: "I should be surprised if 50 per cent of those don't get somewhere."

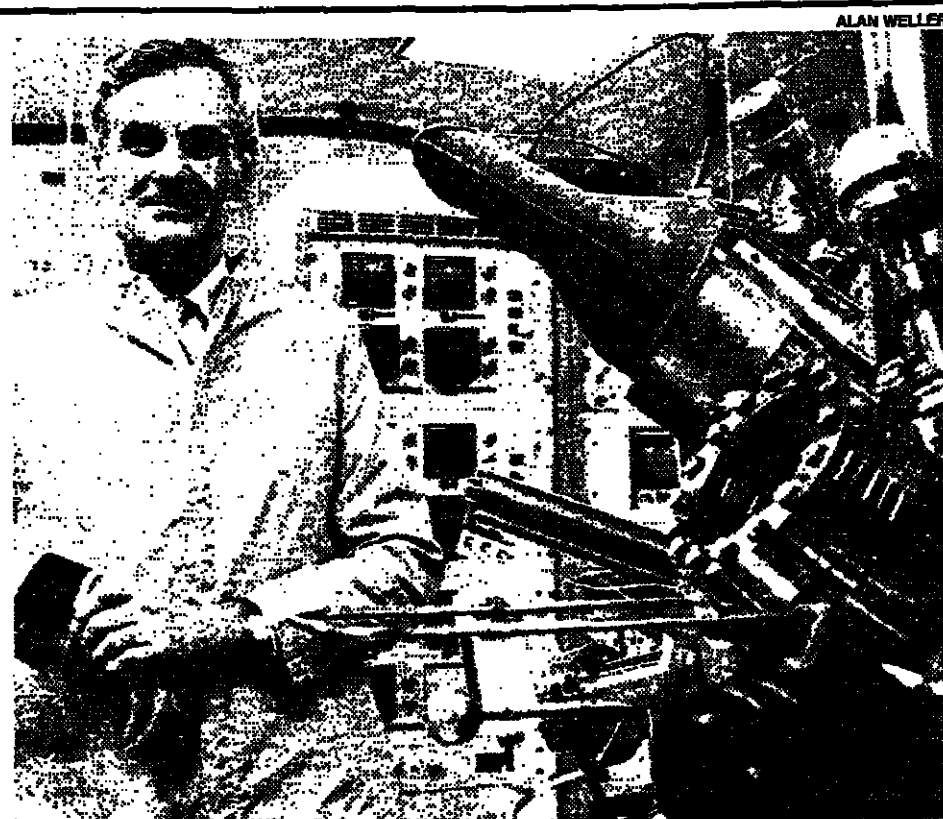
The primary goal, of course, is to make money for the college, but Imperial wants to make sure that individual researchers benefit too. So, in any agreements on technology transfer, the researchers will get a proportion of the money raised.

The general rule of thumb is

lego's financial problems, and the researchers would probably be the prime beneficiaries, but £10 million would be quite a different matter.

That would be a very nice nest egg. The larger the sum that's likely to come in the higher the percentage the college is likely to take."

The expertise that RCL brings in can save academics from themselves on occasion. Most researchers are at home in a laboratory but totally at sea with things like intellectual property rights.



If it were making millions the college should probably take most of the profits.

Dr David Thomas in the molecular beam epitaxy laboratory

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Clubs that can power industry

Government-funded laboratories such as the National Physical Laboratory at Teddington on the outskirts of London positively groan with information and research results that are useful in the real world. One of the most fruitful ways of transferring technology to industry is through so-called industrial "clubs."

These fall into two categories: research-and-development clubs and awareness clubs. In the first, R & D clubs, a small number of companies get together to fund research in an area of common interest and share the benefits of the subsequent results.

In awareness clubs, companies (usually much larger numbers than in the R & D clubs) pay a fee to be kept informed in a more general way of the laboratory's work in specific areas.

The National Physical Laboratory started its first club in the late 1970s, says Dr Keith Berry, head of marketing at the NPL, and now has more than 20, split 50/50 between the two types.

An NPL research and development club will typically have only a handful of members (probably up to six) each of whom may pay anything up to £30,000 a year in subscriptions. That money gives them a say in the work that the laboratory undertakes. Often they are competitors from the same industry, but they are willing to sink their differences and collaborate in the research because it is "pre-competitive" - very basic research which may ultimately have commercial importance but is still a long way from being applied in business.

The NPL, for example, is about to set up an R & D club in an area known as "the engineering design of composite structures." In layman's terms this is about the use of special fibre-reinforced polymers in load bearing structures. The kind of composites which are showing an interest are those in the automotive

industry (fibre reinforced polymers may have uses, for instance, in vehicle floors) and rail transport.

The aim of such clubs, says Dr Berry, is to get its members to the stage where they eventually identify an area of research which will be sufficiently useful to them as individuals that they will do the research themselves. At that point the research moves over the boundary from being pre-competitive (the role of the clubs) to competitive (the business of the companies themselves.) "There must be a time when people claim up and stop contributing."

Laboratories such as NPL are public laboratories and therefore ultimately they want to see the fruits of their research disseminated as widely as possible, but the membership of R & D clubs gives the members prior access to the information.

The awareness clubs, in contrast to the R & D arrangements, will have many more members - anything up to 100 - each of them paying a much lower subscription (hundreds of pounds rather than thousands). They cannot dictate the NPL research programme in the way that R & D club members do, says Dr Berry, but they get newsletters, attend meetings and are generally kept in touch with their subject.

Though they cannot direct the direction of research, says Dr Berry, it is common when the members of awareness clubs get together for a consensus to emerge on the subject matter. So though the members may not be directing research in the way that members of R & D clubs do, the NPL scientists do become aware of their pre-occupations.

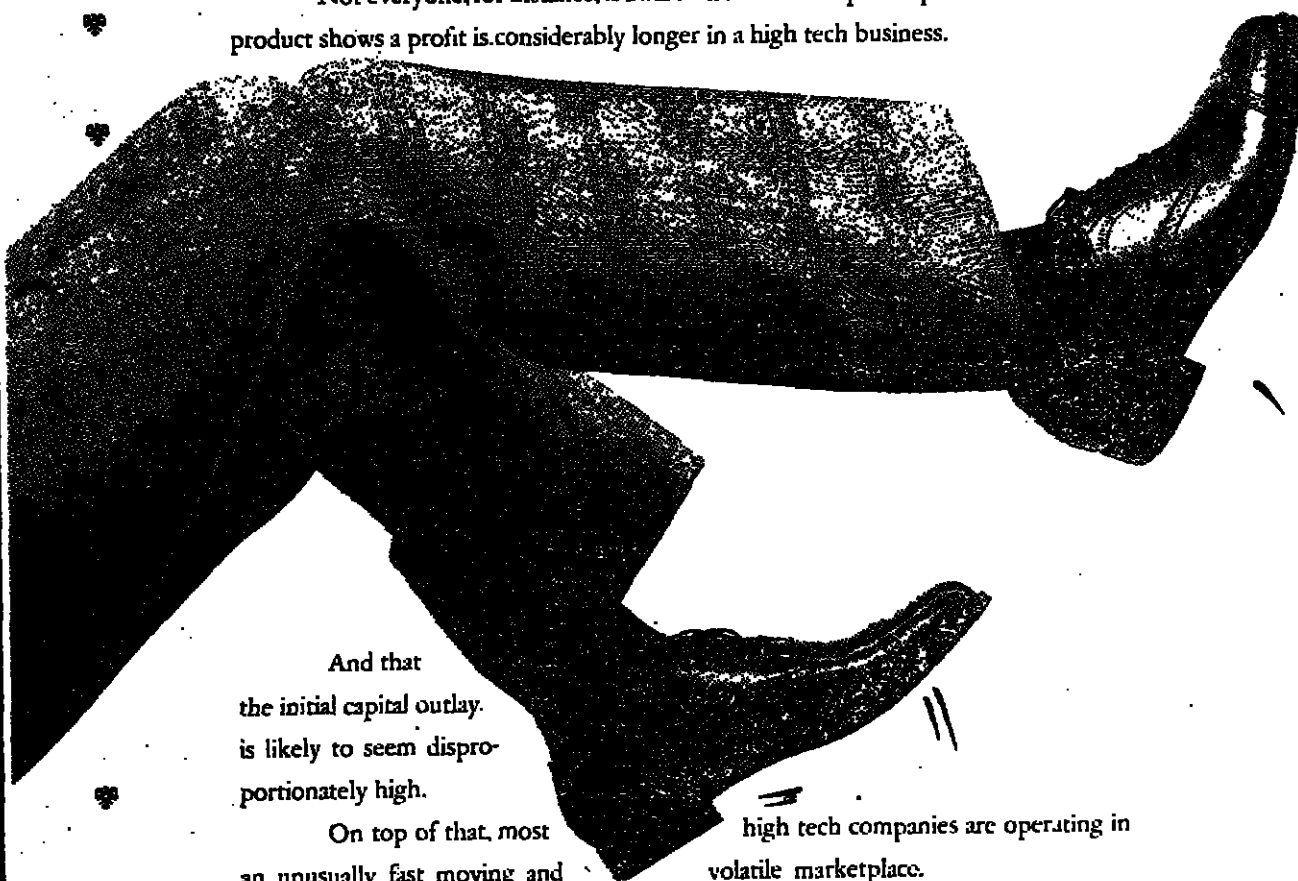
The awareness clubs can draw together many, often apparently disparate industries. The Government pays towards the clubs, but never more than 50 per cent of the full economic cost.

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The £3bn challenge for progress

Private sector support for the Government's Action for Cities plan is producing dramatic results. But what role is left for the local councils and the voluntary sector? asks CHARLES KNEVITT

Attention on relieving the plight of Britain's inner cities will focus on Birmingham today, and more specifically on an extraordinary street party for 1,500 youngsters, many from Handsworth, centred on a tramshed in the shadow of Aston Villa football ground. Forty youths are renovating it as a museum at a cost of £180,000. But why all the fuss?

Of all the places to stage a 40th birthday party, the Prince of Wales chose this unlikely venue. Those joining in the celebrations will be drawn from the beneficiaries of his charities that help the unemployed and underprivileged in areas where Government ministers rarely set foot.

The Prince is refreshing parts of the country as yet barely touched by the £3 billion Action for Cities package launched by the Prime Minister and six Cabinet colleagues eight months ago. His speeches, visits and charities helped to put the inner cities at the top of the political agenda.

Support from Whitehall will soon be on stream, however, with the Government matching pound for pound money raised by public subscription through the Prince's Youth Business Trust.

Such royal intervention is welcomed by Tony Newton, the Department of Industry Minister, charged since July with coordinating inner city initiatives. Not only does it draw attention to what needs to be done, he says, but encourages private sector involvement through organizations such as Business in the Community, of which the Prince is president.

Almost 18 months have elapsed since Mrs Thatcher's famous Election night remarks from the staircase of Conservative Party Central Office when she committed her third Government to doing something about the inner cities; or, as Mr Newton puts it, ensuring they benefit from the fruits of renewed economic prosperity by getting a fair share of the cake.



The Prince of Wales, who is closely involved with architects and inner-city regeneration, discusses, above, the model for a new development at Newcastle upon Tyne. Right: Michael Honey, the new chief executive of the London Docklands Development Corporation, at Canary Wharf

Across the broad spectrum of issues, the results have been dramatic. Enterprise, particularly private enterprise, permeates policies on employment, education, training, housing for those trapped in public rented accommodation, development corporations, bringing derelict land back into productive use, transport and health.

Action for Cities provided no more public investment, rather a better targeting of existing resources. The Chancellor's autumn statement, however, promised modest increases in specific areas of capital spending which will reap further rewards over the next three years.

Mr Newton, who is still quietly working his way into the job after the high profile stance of his predecessor, Kenneth Clarke, has set himself three priorities, and keeping up the momentum embraces them all.

Business leaders will take part in a Government-sponsored symposium in Newcastle upon Tyne at the end of the month, with the final Action for Cities breakfast being held in Leicester on December 6.

Informal talks with organizations such as BIC, the CBI and Phoenix are continuing. And local authorities are being encouraged to enter into partnerships, "where they work pragmatically with us, and us with them".

The response of local councils,

virtually all of them Labour-controlled, has changed noticeably over the past two years, even in the past 12 months, as they express enthusiasm for their achievement and optimism about their future role. Mr Newton claims with some justification.

Development corporations, in particular, are not necessarily seen as a threat anymore.

Recent setbacks, such as the Government's volte-face on some

Also, Bradford City Council's much publicized decision to slash its services has provoked widespread concern, not least among churchmen, that social divisions will be widened between the haves and the have-nots, even though the ratepayers will welcome the lighter burden on their pockets.

As more and more power and resources are centralized in Government departments, local government no longer has an option

to offer the same kind of services and financial incentives that they make available to the business sector," he wrote. Volunteers "have to do what the Government policy allows and refrain from other activities which in their judgement they think may be necessary but which the civil servants with whom they deal regard as irrelevant".

Changes in the operation of the former Manpower Services Commission's training scheme, cutbacks in the Urban Programme and the abolition of the large metropolitan councils have all hit hard at the sector so often left out of partnership deals encouraged by central government between the private and public sectors.

Before its abolition the Greater London Council was spending £90 million a year in encouraging community enterprise and active citizens, while Islington, London's smallest borough, has an estimated 800 voluntary organizations of which two-thirds are funded. About £8 million a year is dispensed on 300 groups.

There can be no doubt that the salvation of the inner cities is not only going to be a long haul, continuing well into the next century, but also that enterprise will need to be fostered as much from the "bottom up" as from the "top down" if it is going to succeed in the way Mrs Thatcher and her Cabinet would wish.

"He and his colleagues will need

Developers learn the hard way

The London Docklands Development Corporation, standard-bearer for the Government's assault on inner city wastelands and inducement to private sector investment, has been taking a drubbing, writes Charles Knevitt.

Changes in senior personnel began to look like a version of musical chairs. Then a House of Commons all-party select committee on employment published a report saying not only had the LDDC failed to create jobs, but that training and education provision had been poor.

But after six months at the helm as chief executive, Michael Honey is bringing about some radical changes in an organization which under his predecessor, Reg Ward, succeeded in attracting £4.5 billion of private capital and created the largest building site in Europe.

On his appointment he said: "There is now no doubt about the viability of Docklands in terms of physical regeneration. The challenge is to make it work equally well as a community for the benefit of the whole of London. Getting local people trained for the new jobs must be a main priority."

Many of the problems he has inherited are those associated with success. Demand for services, particularly the transport infrastructure, has outstripped supply. More than £500 million is being invested in roads, another £200 million on upgrading and extending the Docklands Light Railway. Additional provision will certainly be needed to cater for the £3 billion Canary Wharf development, and for the six million sq ft development at the Royal Docks.

Mr Honey is also building on improved relations with the three local councils - Newham, Tower Hamlets and Southwark - many of whose powers were usurped when the corporation was set up by Michael Heseltine, then Environment Secretary, in 1981.

As more development corporations come on stream - three of the four third generation DCs are now up and running, in Central Manchester, Leeds and Sheffield - and as others have their designated areas expanded (tre-

bled in the case of Merseyside, announced last week), so their funding has increased: about £250 million a year, or half the Department of the Environment's inner city expenditure.

By the mid-1990s, all the existing corporations will probably have completed their task and the areas will be handed back to the local authorities.

The first, second and third generation DCs have life-expectancies of about 15, 10 and seven years, respectively. Although no further ones are planned at

Smaller developments with shorter lives are a tempting option

present, if those already in existence can emulate London Docklands' achievements by half, then smaller versions with shorter life spans must be a tempting option.

The biggest challenge of all the corporations now face is acting on the needs and aspirations of the local population at their outset.

The message seems to have percolated through quickly enough to second generation corporations, such as Tyne and Wear, where chief executive, Alastair Balls, has about £150 million to spend over the first five years and aims to "put the heart back into rundown communities".

And last week, Philip Carter, chairman of the Merseyside Development Corporation, announced that it was to work in partnership with the Eldonians, who won the top award in the 1988 Community Enterprise Scheme sponsored by The Times and the Royal Institute of British Architects, in the provision of social, economic and housing opportunities.

The community group and their advisers have been lobbying ministers for four years to create a community-led partnership of local people, the corporation and private sector. Now they are to get £30,000 over two years to appoint a development manager, and are to be given priority in the provision of housing, training and business facilities.

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Rent fears for the tenants

Debra Isaac describes
housing-estate doubts
about government plans

"We want the right to vote now, not when it's too late... We don't believe the Government... We knew our rents would go up... What has this Government ever done for us to make us believe what you say? ... We ain't got nothing except the roofs over our heads, but we're not going to give up what little we've got."



Minister under fire: David Trippier, the junior Housing Minister, meets some angry residents at a council housing estate in North Peckham, London

So went the angry shouts at the tenants' meeting on the North Peckham council estate in south east London last month when David Trippier, the junior Minister for Housing, tried to explain to a packed community hall the benefits of the Government's proposed Housing Action Trusts (HATs).

The HATs, Mr Trippier spelt out, meant £192 million of new money for six of the most rundown council estates in the country, including North Peckham. The Government would take away control of the estates from the local authority and, in three or four years, transform the estates where the councils were said to have failed. Afterwards, tenants could choose to go back to local authority control or to having a new landlord such as a tenant co-operative or housing trust.

The proposals fell on deaf ears. As in Tower Hamlets and Sunderland, where Mr Trippier had spoken the week before, the tenants were determined not to be duped. Wherever you went on the estates, people told

you that HATs meant higher rents (maybe five times higher) and that if you were in arrears, you got turned out of your home.

The Government complained of a campaign of "misinformation", but such was the opposition that the House of Lords voted in October that tenants must have a right to veto on the HATs option rather than having it imposed by Government. The Government protested, but suddenly, last weekend, knowing full well from initial surveys that any ballot would go against HATs, did a U-turn and said a ballot would be allowed. For many tenants, that means HATs are all but dead.

Some people think the Government will try to woo tenants with new carrots, but they will have to be lured indeed to overcome tenants' suspicions and the hostile voices of councils and tenants' associations.

The problem the Government has run into on these estates is that, however rundown they may be (and some tenants have been indignant that their homes have been branded

slums), if the choice is between more habitable surroundings and existing tenants' rights, the latter wins hands down.

Many tenants complain about councils who take six months to mend a vandalized window or who allow window frames to rot to such an extent that you can stick your fist right through them. They complain vociferously about the threat of ill-lit concrete walkways, the difficulties for pensioners living on fifth floors when lifts are broken, the pervasive graffiti and litter, the gaping holes where windows have been smashed and the terrifying voids behind boarded-up flats.

Yet to other tenants, this is "home", and the security it provides compensates for a host of other ills. And many others, including young mothers with children who would think would feel most keenly depressed, simply do not mind their surroundings and seem to have inexpressibly low expectations.

For both those who see the problems and those who do not,

however, the threat of unaffordable rent increases, of rent arrears putting people out on the streets and unmanageable surcharges drives out most other considerations.

In addition, some tenants' associations have fought for years for multi-million pound renovations which are just getting off the ground. These may take 10 years, but the tenants are proud of their achievements and do not want government interference. The Government, which insists there are tenants who would willingly pay a few extra pounds for guaranteed benefits, argues that tenants' fears are more imagined than real.

Rents, Mr Trippier promises, will rise only in line with council rents. Tenants, he urges, can allay their fears about rights simply by opting to return to council control. And, whoever the new landlords are they will be forced to provide homes within the reach of the "low-paid".

When tenants probe these assurances, though, they question their genuineness. The Government may

say, for instance, that rent rises will only mirror council rises. But people on the estates know that the Government is planning to force councils to "ring-fence" their housing budgets, meaning they will not be able to use general rates to subsidize council housing.

The promise that tenants can opt to return to council control also prompts fears. Yes, say tenants, we can choose the council as landlord, but the council has to buy back the estate first. How can the councils afford that? The Government explains that it will lend the councils the money; and that the price of the estates will be based on realistic rent projections, rather than national market returns.

The tenants, however, are unconvinced. Higher maintenance costs, debt repayments, and "ring-fencing" all spell higher rents. The money for better homes has, after all, to come from somewhere.

The tragedy is that though HATs seem to have died a political death, the "intractable" problems which prompted them, remain unsolved.

Church moves to help the deprived



Archbishop Runcie

Even before the horrific riots at Broadwater Farm in north London and Handsworth, Birmingham, in 1985, the Church of England had been examining its conscience on whether it had been responding adequately to the problems of the inner cities, writes Debra Isaac. As it was, its report, *Faith in the Cities*, published in 1985, concluded that the church was not doing enough and made specific recommendations.

A major one was for a fund to raise as much money as possible and direct it to people in the inner cities with the greatest need. The project took two years to get off the ground. In April this year, however, the Archbishop of Canterbury finally launched the Church Urban Fund with the aim of raising £18 million from 43 dioceses and £5 million from industry. Six months on, the fund has £6 million towards the former target and £1.5 million towards the latter, thanks to the likes of BP and National Westminster Bank.

The Church Commissioners have also given £2 million and the goal, when the fund is fully subscribed, is to use it to generate funds of £4 million a year until the year 2010 for inner-city work. Obviously, £4 million a year is not going to rebuild the inner cities or restructure them in any fundamental way. So the fund has, in making its first grants, concentrated on small projects — funding an extra social worker here or a conversion of a church hall as a training centre there — according to how local churches identify needs and benefits.

The responsibility lies with the local bishop to assess projects first and to use his knowledge of the area to judge where his diocese can do most good.

There are also four main areas for action: training, advice and counselling, work with children and the young, and "mission and outreach". This last term is a woolly one meaning spreading Christianity, trying to make it accessible to people in the inner cities who think it is predominantly middle-class and white, and trying to get more people going regularly through the church doors.

So far, 100 projects, representing two thirds of all applications, have received grants. The range is wide. There is a project in Brixton, south London, the equivalent of a youth club. It organizes outings and visits so that the teenagers feel that the world outside Brixton is accessible to them, too.

A grant has gone to fund a professional counsellor in Dagenham, Essex, to work on

a council estate with a high incidence of drug users and where many of the addicts are young couples with children.

At Walthamstow, in north-east London, there is another collaboration with the Baptists to set up a network of careers for the disadvantaged and elderly, and to provide counselling and back-up for the careers.

Sir Richard O'Brien, the fund's vice-chairman, says that its policy is to provide only partial funding for projects, using fund grants as a catalyst to attract more money. Typically, the fund gives only half of the money needed.

Many of the projects, he says, are experimental. They give people what they think they need, and try to instil respect and hope. The fund will monitor all the results and many, he thinks, may prove to be interesting models of how to do things.

On the ground, people organizing the projects defend their usefulness on a far more direct basis. "This is not the Church of England handing out tea and sympathy," one project co-ordinator said. "We are dealing with cases of grinding poverty. It is often far more a question of life and death. We are helping individuals who have no other means of help."

How Bud spared some time — and money

The Government has for years been trying to get the private sector to take the lead in regenerating the inner cities, writes Debra Isaac. British Urban Development (Bud), the company set up in March by 11 construction companies to develop inner-city wastelands, is exactly the sort of initiative of which the Prime Minister approves, and it comes as no surprise to find that its chief executive, Harry Booth, is a former inner-city policy adviser at No. 10.

Bud aims to use big construction company expertise to give new life to rundown urban tracts. It operates by setting out to ensure that its developments make a profitable return. Where it differs from other development companies is that the return it will accept is lower than the usual commercial rate (how low it will not specify), and that it is prepared to commit large sums on this basis.

So far, the 11 firms, including names such as Trafalgar House, Wimpey, Costain and Tarmac, have put up £55 million capital. Already, it is evident that new projects will mean going to the City in the usual way to raise more money in coming years: the credentials of these blue-chip firms will go a long way to securing funds.

Partners will also have the reassurance of knowing that

Bud has the management expertise and interest in making sure projects deliver the projected returns and that there is a hard edge to this sort of philanthropy; any major construction project probably means work for the consortium members, after all.

Such practical philosophy, as much as the considerable marketing skills of Mr Booth, mean that in eight months Bud has already achieved an impressive record in winning contracts for high-profile inner-city developments. Top list of achievements is the contract to develop the 240-acre Greenwich peninsula, the last undeveloped riverside site in London. The project, estimated to be a £1 billion development, was won against fierce competition from the likes of Roschagha, Olympia and York.

Bud's willingness to give the landowner, British Gas, a more generous share of the profit than others apparently helped win the deal. But Greenwich Council must also have been impressed by Bud's response to handling the social aspects of the development.

Perhaps with the criticisms of the London Docklands Corporation in mind (concerning the lack of low-cost housing and the damage to the local community), Greenwich laid down specifications for 40,000 homes, with a high

proportion of cheap housing. Bud, because of its origins, is probably more conscious than other developers of the need to spend money creating places people can live and work in.

In Swansea, where Bud has 170 derelict acres to transform, it has created the concept of a Partnership Enterprise Zone (PeZ), set up in conjunction with a local authority.

The local authority has promised to simplify planning procedures. But the key element of the PeZ is that the main incentives designed to attract businesses to the enterprise zone will be private sector ones instead of public. Instead of lower rates and taxes, there will be cheap loans, cheap houses, and cheap industrial materials courtesy of Bud member firms.

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CHAIRMAN Sir Robert Reid is currently a Member of the President's Committee of Business in the Community and a strong supporter of community involvement with a policy targeted to regenerate community initiatives and improve the potential of business opportunity.

VOLUNTARY SECTOR British Rail is glad to contribute where it can in support of community effort, much of it involving BR employees or organisations and projects in areas where there is a significant railway presence.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES In partnership with other major national employers, British Rail contributes financially to Project Fullemploy which provides training and work experience opportunities for disadvantaged inner city youngsters, mainly from ethnic minorities with few, if any, educational qualifications.

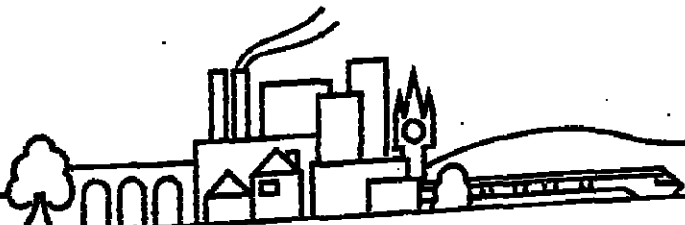
SECONDMENT Close to fifty BR staff are seconded or sponsored to organisations that require the skills of experienced

managers in the creation of new small businesses and worthwhile community projects.

YOUTH TRAINING SCHEME As a major contributor to the development of the Youth Training Scheme with the fullest support of the railway unions, British Rail offers more than 900 YTS places annually in 60 locations around the country. Providing a combination of on-the-job training and work experience with off-the-job training and education, BR schemes regularly achieve a 75% placement rate for trainees into full-time employment inside BR or elsewhere.

YOUNG BUSINESS BR managers seconded to local enterprise agencies counselled the 1988 and 1987 National Award winning businesses in the 'Livewire' competition. BR supports young people in areas of high unemployment through the awards of bursaries in conjunction with the Prince's Youth Business Trust and the secondment of staff to enterprise agencies with specific objectives to assist young people to set up their own business.

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EDUCATION

Edited by David Tytler

Parent power v the bishops

The joyous surge of parent power towards opting their schools out of local authority control is being marred for some, says Douglas Broom, Education Reporter. For Roman Catholics it can mean defying the spiritual authority of the bishops



FOR OPTING OUT: Daniel O'Connell, left, chairman of the Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School, west London, Parents' Action Group. He says: "We don't want to fight against the church, but we must protect our school."



AGAINST: Cardinal Basil Hume, right. He urged the Education Secretary to exempt Catholic schools from the Government's opting out provisions.

Twice within the last fortnight parents have given overwhelming endorsement to the principle that state schools should be free to determine their own futures.

By voting to opt their schools out of local authority control, parents at Skegness and Bolton have provided the best possible launch for the Government's new policy of giving increased independence to state schools under Grant Maintained status.

Although both schools will need ministerial approval before they can opt out of the control of their local authorities, the scale of support for the move in Bolton 99.6 per cent voted in favour will give heart to other schools wavering on the brink of taking the same step.

For most state schools the prospects of being freed from local authority influence, of whatever political colour, is exciting. Grant-maintained schools will be run by their governors and will get funding without strings attached, from the Government.

But as the euphoria mounts it is becoming clear that not all schools will be able to take advantage of the new freedom. For many church schools, particularly Roman Catholic, opting out may prove the path to greater and not less outside control.

Technically, any school with more than 300 pupils is entitled to apply to the Education Secretary.

Some of the parents are in a terrible dilemma because they have never before been disobedient to the church

Kenneth Baker, for permission to opt out.

In the case of secular schools the process involves a simple transfer of land and buildings to the newly independent school's governors with the maintenance grant paid by the Government instead of the local authority.

The problem for church schools is that most of them are "voluntary-aided" with the church, or other founding institution, owning the land and buildings and providing capital to pay for repairs and

new buildings. In addition, the church appoints a majority of the school's governors who can out-vote parents or local council nominees.

The Education Reform Act, which introduced opting out in July, requires local authorities to transfer the fixed assets of a school to its new governing body at the time of an opt out.

But the churches are under no such obligation. With their monopoly of power on the governing bodies of their schools, and as owners of the school buildings, they will simply gain complete control of the school, unfettered by local authority interference.

The Roman Catholic church argues that this situation is not of its making; it never wanted opting out in the first place. During the Parliamentary stages of the Act, the Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Basil Hume, urged Mr

Baker to exempt Catholic schools from its opting out provisions.

Patrick Topp, schools education officer for the Archdiocese of Westminster, said that parent power presented serious doctrinal problems for Roman Catholics.

In Canon Law, all questions about education were the province of the bishops, and parents should take their lead from the church on

take over schools in the area when the school is abolished in April 1990.

Their target is the church itself, which wants to close the school's sixth form and transfer the pupils, to a new Catholic sixth-form college in the area.

They believe that opting out offers a lifeline because of the prohibition on schools which opt out changing their character for at least five years. The parents believe that opting out will save their sixth form.

The chairman of the Parents' Action Group, Daniel O'Connell, said many parents were alarmed to find themselves in open conflict with the church.

"Some of the parents are in a terrible dilemma because they have never before been disobedient to the church," he said.

"But they believe that the interests of their children must come first. We don't want to fight against the church, but we must protect our school."

The church schools, it seems, are destined to be the spectre at parent power's feast.

'Work as you study' could conserve funds

What Americans call "working your way through college" is a proud tradition in a country in which self-improvement and meritocratic rise are considered social assets. And the system could well be adopted by British students, writes Janet Daley.

Virtually all the manual jobs in US universities, other than those requiring specialist skills, are available for students who could not otherwise afford the cost of full-time study. Indeed, many of the jobs are offered as a form of working scholarship to able students and involve a specific number of duty hours in return for a percentage of fees defrayed.

A cousin of mine won a full scholarship at Stanford in return for waiting on tables in one of the fraternity dining-rooms - a system deliberately designed by that wholly private institution for using its wealthy fee-paying students to subsidise its poorer ones.

Meantime, I was living, as a Berkeley undergraduate, in a co-operative residence hall. The "co-op" charged from half to two-thirds of the normal residence-hall

fee in return for 10 to 20 hours of work a week. Except for laundry, which was sent out, the co-op was entirely student-run.

We did our own cooking, cleaning and domestic chores on a rota basis, all of which was managed and co-ordinated by a committee elected from among the students. As an exercise in mature self-sufficiency, it took some beating. And it worked amazingly well.

Student help in British universities would slash the ancillary staff wage bill as well as providing financial aid to students with no net drain on funds. It would, of course, run into fierce opposition from the public-sector unions, in whose province most of this employment now falls. But the price of failing to take up policies of this kind might well be a permanent lack of expansion of opportunity in higher education.

Unless it is made feasible for students to pay their way and to reduce, by their own efforts, the cost to the state of their training, we shall continue to have one of the smallest university-educated populations in the western world.



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EDUCATIONAL

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Information on application procedure and further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria, 3168, Australia, or the Appointment Officer, Association of Commonwealth Universities, 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF, UK.

Applications should reach the Registrar not later than Friday 20 January 1989. Council reserves the right to make no appointment or to appoint by invitation at any time.

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Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced candidates for the post of Secretary to the University in succession to Mr A.M. Currie, OBE, on his retirement at 31 December 1989.

Responsibilities include Secretaryship of the University Court and the Senate Academics; as Head of the Administration, the Secretary is also responsible for the University's central services, including Finance, Personnel, Estates & Buildings, etc. and Faculty administration. The salary will be at a level appropriate to a post of this seniority in a major UK University.

Further particulars of the post may be obtained from the Principal, University of Edinburgh, 63 South Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1LS, with whom applications should be lodged by 31 December 1988.

Please quote reference 58/88

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS OF LAW (two positions) FACULTY OF LAW

The University invites applications from persons with extensive teaching experience and scholarly achievement for two new Professorships of Law. There is no preference for any particular field of interest, though the successful candidates will be expected to provide academic leadership in their particular fields and to the Faculty as a whole at a challenging time in its development. It is hoped that those appointed would be able to take up duty by February 1990.

Closing date: 19 December 1988 Ref. FL 3.11.1
Salary: A\$61,550 p.a. APPOINTMENT: to retiring age 65. APPLICATIONS should be submitted in duplicate to the Registrar, The Australian National University, GPO Box 4, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia, quoting reference number. They should include a curriculum vitae, list of publications and names of at least three referees. The University reserves the right not to make an appointment or to appoint by invitation at any time. Further information is available from the Registrar, or from the Appointments Officer, Association of Commonwealth Universities, 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF.

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The appointment will be made within the training grade and starting salary will be in accordance with age and experience within Grade 2 of the National Salary Structure for academically-related staff, at present £12,150 - £15,720 per annum, plus £1,450 London Allowance (currently under review) with membership of the University Superannuation Scheme. There will be the opportunity for promotion to the Grade 3 scale, currently £16,345 - £19,310, plus London Allowance.

Further particulars and application forms obtainable from Miss D. Langley, University of London Careers Advisory Service, 50 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF, telephone 01-387 8221 Ext 224. Closing date for applications is Wednesday 23 November 1988. A long-list selection will be held on 5 December and the final selection panel on 13 December.

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The salary will be on one of the following scales:
Lecturer Grade A: £9,260 - £14,000, together with USS/USOPS
Lecturer Grade B: £11,005 - £19,810, together with USS/USOPS

Informal enquiries may be made to Professor G. Beaumont 0792 795771, but further particulars and application forms (2 copies) must be obtained from the Personnel Officer, University College of Swansea, P.O. Box 20, Swansea, SA2 8PP, to which office they should be returned by Friday, January 5, 1989.

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Further details may be obtained from the Headmaster, Cranleigh School, Surrey GU6 8QQ (tel. 0483 273997). Applications, with c.v. and the names and addresses of two referees, should be submitted not later than 23rd November.

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Salary will be within the range £9,373 to £11,006 per annum (£9,625 to £11,317 per annum from 1.2.89). For an application form and further details please send a self-addressed envelope to: Personnel Officer, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton BN1 9RL.

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915-916, 917-918, 919-920, 921-922, 923-924, 925-926, 927-928, 929-930, 931-932, 933-934, 935-936, 937-938, 939-940, 941-942, 943-944, 945-946, 947-948, 949-950, 951-952, 953-954, 955-956, 957-958, 959-960, 961-962, 963-964, 965-966, 967-968, 969-970, 971-972, 973-974, 975-976, 977-978, 979-980, 981-982, 983-984, 985-986, 987-988, 989-990, 991-992, 993-994, 995-996, 997-998, 999-1000, 1001-1002, 1003-1004, 1005-1006, 1007-1008, 1009-1010, 1011-1012, 1013-1014, 1015-1016, 1017-1018, 1019-1020, 1021-1022, 1023-1024, 1025-1026, 1027-1028, 1029-1030, 1031-1032, 1033-1034, 1035-1036, 1037-1038, 1039-1040, 1041-1042, 1043-1044, 1045-1046, 1047-1048, 1049-1050, 1051-1052, 1053-1054, 1055-1056, 1057-1058, 1059-1060, 1061-1062, 1063-1064, 1065-1066, 1067-1068, 1069-1070, 1071-1072, 1073-1074, 1075-1076, 1077-1078, 1079-1080, 1081-1082, 1083-1084, 1085-1086, 1087-1088, 1089-1090, 1091-1092, 1093-1094, 1095-1096, 1097-1098, 1099-1100, 1101-1102, 1103-1104, 1105-1106, 1107-1108, 1109-1110, 1111-1112, 1113-1114, 1115-1116, 1117-1118, 1119-1120, 1121-1122, 1123-1124, 1125-1126, 1127-1128, 1129-1

Hadlee and Richards: men of the century

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

The irritating memory of pain and frustration in his native Christchurch nine months ago haunted Richard Hadlee as he took the field in Bangalore on Saturday morning. But this time there was no mistake, no breakdown, no crippling anticlimax. Hadlee is now officially the No. 1 bowler in Test cricket history.

It has been a long time coming and there must have been times when this hard-headed realist surveyed the balance sheet and wondered whether the deal was worth the aggravation. An obsessively fit man, his body let him down on the day that appeared to be made for breaking the record — before his home town crowd and with England as the stooges.

Since that cruelly disappointing February day, the New Zealand star has had to pace his recovery, overcome a temptation to retire and grapple with his reluctance to tour the subcontinent.

A lesser man, without his meticulous mind and driving ambition, might have called it a day. But Hadlee wanted that record more than he would ever say and so, on a steamy morning in India's garden city, he had his wish. At the age of 37 and in his 75th Test.

Hadlee's 374th victim was the Indian opener, Arun Lal, caught at third slip against the outswinger.

It was a typical Hadlee dismissal but an uncharacteristic reaction — an instinctive leap, the clenching of fists, then a joyous rush down the pitch. He turned and waved to the pavilion, where his wife Karen was watching. Then, collecting his thoughts and emotions amid the clamour of firecrackers, Hadlee resumed normal service and took his usual five-wicket haul.

His words, when they came, were dominated by relief. "It was a special wicket," he said. "A special day. The moment will live with me forever."

Hadlee, however, has never been one to live on past achievements when there are fresh fields to conquer. He wants to be remembered as the pioneer, the first man ever to break the 400 barrier.

It may not take him long. The rhythm of his bowling is as smooth as ever, the control and movement unimpaired by age. After this tour, he has a home series with Pakistan early in the New Year, when the New Zealand people can wallow in his triumph.

Bangalore report, page 41

HADLEE'S ROAD TO A RECORD

Year	Against	W	R	O	B	50s	100s	Ave
1972-73	Pakistan	1	25	0	112	7	2	36.00
1973-74	England	1	45	0	143	7	1	24.00
1973-74	Australia	1	36	0	255	4	1	36.42
1973-74	India	1	30	0	225	10	4	22.50
1975-76	India	2	48	0	197	12	7	16.42
1976-77	Pakistan	1	72	0	448	10	5	22.80
1976-77	India	1	12	0	437	13	4	26.85
1976-77	Australia	2	72	0	354	8	3	26.80
1977-78	England	1	121	0	371	15	6	24.73
1977-78	England	1	121	0	371	15	6	24.73
1977-78	Pakistan	1	117	0	314	18	5	23.00
1978-80	W Indies	1	151	0	361	19	8	19.00
1980-81	Australia	1	147	0	384	19	6	19.15
1980-81	India	1	119	0	368	10	5	28.80
1981-82	Australia	1	91	0	226	14	6	16.14
1982-83	England	1	77	0	141	10	4	14.10
1982-83	England	1	103	0	232	12	5	19.00
1982-83	England	1	103	0	232	12	5	19.00
1984-85	Pakistan	1	118	0	306	15	6	15.13
1984-85	W Indies	1	143	0	426	13	4	27.37
1985-86	Australia	1	169	0	401	32	6	12.15
1986-87	England	1	133	0	380	19	8	20.52
1986-87	W Indies	1	113	0	384	17	6	20.52
1986-87	Sri Lanka	1	38	0	102	4	1	25.50
1987-88	Australia	1	180	0	510	18	5	19.61
1987-88	England	1	180	0	510	18	5	19.61
1988-89	India	1	30	0	65	5	1	13.00

RECORDS AGAINST EACH COUNTRY

Against	Tests	Balls	Runs	W	50s	100s	Ave
England	18	5,050	2,015	81	6-29	7	24.87
Australia	22	5,851	2,265	123	9-52	13	20.85
West Indies	10	2,508	1,104	51	6-50	4	24.73
India	9	2,048	957	40	7-23	3	27.82
Pakistan	6	1,405	470	37	5-29	2	12.78

TOP 10 TEST WICKET-TAKERS

	Tests	Balls	Runs	W	50	100	Ave
R J Hadlee	75	15,315	8,444	378	5-52	33	22.33
I T Borthwick	94	20,801	10,392	373	6-34	27	27.86
D R Llewellyn	70	18,407	8,493	352	7-43	23	23.92
J R Laker	73	17,137	7,319	334	5-58	23	21.91
R G D Willis	93	15,343	8,426	319	5-33	19	22.20
Kapil Dev	83	15,243	8,452	318	9-33	19	25.26
L R Gibbs	79	27,115	9,399	309	6-36	18	25.99
F S Trueman	67	15,178	6,320	297	5-31	12	21.57
D L Underwood	86	21,852	7,674	297	5-51	17	25.83
M D Marshall	58	12,047	5,521	280	7-22	18	20.41

Figures up to November 13, 1988

Compiled by Richard Lockwood

Figures up to November 13, 1988

Compiled by Richard Lockwood

Vivian Richards is not known for dithering nervously in the 90s. His reaction to an imminent century is usually to exaggerate the familiar swagger before dismissing the moment with an imperious stroke and a regal wave of his bat. The biggest century of all has caused him rather more bother.

When the West Indian captain began last summer's tour of England with 126 against Sussex, his 98th first-class century and one struck with violent disdain, the record books were dusted down in readiness for the momentous entry. It did not seem long odds against Richards completing the century of centuries even before the Test series began. It seemed inconceivable that he would still be waiting when the tour party packed up to fly home.

That, however, is precisely how it turned out. It was a tour which triumphantly endorsed his right to lead the world's strongest team but one which caused a ripple of speculation over his continuing right to be the world's best batsman.

He averaged a strictly mortal 37 in the Tests, passing 50 only twice. After the fanfare at Hove, he failed to make another century on the tour.

Were we witnessing the decline of a heavyweight talent? Or were we deluding ourselves?

This past week, Richards has provided the answer, dramatically and emphatically. After two-month break from the game, he has made consecutive centuries in his first two innings of a new tour in Australia. He has discharged his obligation to the statisticians like a household chore that had been put off until a convenient moment.

He reached the milestone yesterday in Sydney — coincidentally where Bradman made his hundredth century 40 years ago — on a ground

where he had never previously made a hundred, by glancing Greg Matthews to fine leg. His side, struggling against New South Wales, needed the runs.

The plain fact that Richards has become the 22nd player to record 100 first-class centuries will cause no surprise, only many nods of recognition that the inevitable has now occurred. At 36, with his appetite undiminished, he has power to add much more.

It is a measure of his greatness that a Richards century is considered as predictable as a par for Faldor or a winner for Scudamore. Each and every one, however, has been worth watching.

RICHARDS'S RISE TO THE ELITE

Year	Against	W	R	O	B	50s	100s	Ave
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END COLUMN

The man behind No. 1 marque

By John Blunden

This year's grand prix motor racing season, which ended in Adelaide yesterday, has been about one team — McLaren International — and the red-and-white Marlboro-sponsored and Honda-powered cars with which Ayrton Senna, the new champion, and Alain Prost, yesterday's winner, have overwhelmed the Formula One scene.

Specifically, it has been about Ron Dennis, the driving force of the enterprise whose dedication to perfection has contributed much to the achievement; and about Gordon Murray, the former Brabham chief designer, who moved to McLaren to head what is probably the most powerful technical team ever seen in Formula One.

It has also been about the 150 other people based at McLaren's headquarters in Woking, Surrey, every one of whom has made a personal contribution to the unique achievement of dominating all of this year's 16 races and winning 15 of them.

But perhaps the biggest contribution came from a New Zealander who is no longer around to enjoy the applause, but whose vision of running his own show provided the foundation for this year's success. Bruce McLaren was killed on June 2, 1970 while testing one of his cars at Goodwood.

Although not a tall man, and possessing a limp that was the legacy of a childhood illness, he was a giant in motor racing, whose dedication, integrity and impeccable behaviour inspired loyalty and affection to a depth rarely experienced in the sport, then or since.

As a driver, he achieved more success with his ultra-powerful Can-Am sport-racing cars in North America than in Formula One, although he won four grands prix and was runner-up to Jack Brabham in the 1960 world championship when they were both driving for Cooper.

But skilled though he was in the cockpit — and he was



McLaren: technical wizard

outstanding as a tester — he was even more accomplished as an engineer, and this technical ability served him well when he set about building his own cars and team.

Although he began with sports cars, by 1966 the McLaren team had graduated to Formula One and two years later the personal satisfaction of winning the Belgian Grand Prix as driver and constructor brought a grin of memorable proportions to McLaren's ever-smiling face. The other three grands prix successes before his death were achieved with the aid of his McLaren driving partner and fellow New Zealander, Denny Hulme.

McLaren's fatal accident was the result of one of those tragic flukes that motor racing can sometimes produce, his Can-Am car snapping out of control at 170mph, probably through an aerodynamic disturbance, and hitting the only solid object in the vicinity, a disused marsh's post. Like Jim Clark, who had died two years earlier, he had seemed invincible.

After Clark's death, McLaren wrote: "Too often in this demanding sport, unique in terms of ability, dedication, concentration and courage, someone pays the penalty for trying to do just that little bit better or go that little bit faster. And too often someone pays the penalty for being in the wrong place at the wrong time when a situation or set of circumstances is such that no human being can control them."

Earlier, after the death of his team partner, Tim Mayer, he wrote: "To do something well is so worthwhile that to die trying to do it better cannot be foolhardy. It would be a waste of life to do nothing with one's ability, for I feel that life is measured in achievement, not in years alone."

McLaren left behind him the nucleus of a potentially great team. McLaren cars have since won 70 individual grands prix. He would have been tickled pink about that.

Adelaide report, page 41

Clattering Saturday leaves its scars



Forest pair are kept at home by Clough

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

John Barnes, Steve Hodge and Des Walker have been withdrawn from the England squad which is to fly on Concorde today to Saudi Arabia. The only replacement to be summoned by Bobby Robson is Tony Dorigo, Chelsea's left back. Steven, the other substitute standing by, is injured.

England's manager was particularly relieved that Arsenal, with five representatives in the party of 18, have been so generous and "professional" in their attitude. It was encapsulated in their treatment of Rocaile, one of four players who were not fit enough to take part in yesterday's training session.

Gary Lewin, Arsenal's physiotherapist, tended to him in the morning and then telephoned Robson to advise him that Rocaile would be available if necessary for Wednesday's fixture in Riyadh.

The club went out of its way to get him here. They were meticulous and very helpful," the manager said.

Northingham Forest were not. Robson was offered no information about the absence of Walker, who would have played against Saudi Arabia, or Hodge, who received more than an indirect message from Graham Kelly, the Football Association's chief executive, who happened to be at their game on Saturday.

"Walker must have known, since Butcher was not with us, that he would be in the team," Robson said. "I can only assume that his injury is genuine." Brian Clough, Forest's manager, made no attempt to unravel the apparent mystery which has ushered another inexperienced youngster into the line-up.

Robson has been left with no alternative other than Pallister, who has collected

one cap, and Parker, yet to gain any, as the central defensive partner for Adams. England's manager confirmed that "there will be some debutants." Sheridan, Thomas and Marwood would seem to be the strongest candidates.

Assuming, that is, that they are available. Sheridan and Marwood were rested yesterday with Rocaile and Waddle. All four are suffering from various leg strains, which was the reason given for the withdrawal of Barnes, but all are expected to have recovered in time to practice tomorrow.

The injuries and the loss of his three Glasgow Rangers representatives — Butcher, Stevens and Woods — has depleted his squad. Robson, therefore, has no choice but to conduct experiments in the Arabian desert but they are not scheduled to be repeated in Greece in February, the month before the next World Cup qualifying tie.

Having seen Sweden's 2-1 win in Atlanta, he went to Milan on Saturday to watch the other opponents in England's group. Poland, held 2-2 by an Italian League side strengthened by the presence of Maradona, "looked very useful and their team work in particular was very impressive."

The Poles, who twice took the lead, were without two of their outstanding individuals, Furtek and Rudy. On the evidence so far, Robson is convinced that "it will be a difficult group. There will be a scramble for points."

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Football makes its mark in the ugliest ways: Liverpool's Whelan (above, left) lunges into Millwall's O'Callaghan, who has to leave the field with a shin wound (above) that requires 11 stitches; and Wimbledon's Jones (below) looks at the damage his tackle inflicted on Tottenham's Stevens, who had an operation on knee ligaments yesterday and will be out of action for at least three months. Reports, page 44



SPORT IN BRIEF

Elite Connors

New York (AP) — Jimmy Connors has become the sixth player to qualify for the \$750,000 Nabisco Masters tournament. Connors is in sixth place in the Nabisco Grand Prix singles standings with 2,668 points and joins Mats Wilander, Stefan Edberg, Andre Agassi, Boris Becker and Ivan Lendl in the championship play-off at the end of the year.

Boyd pay-day

Kevin Boyd took his weekend's winnings to £770 last night by setting a second record at the Cumbernauld open swimming meeting. He took 0.25sec off the six-year-old British best for 200 metres backstroke with 2min 02.68sec. He broke the 800 metres freestyle best on Friday.

Birthday girl

Cambridge beat Oxford 6-1 in a women's lacrosse triangular tournament at Mootpur Park on Saturday. Susan Warren scored all six goals on her twentieth birthday and went on to gain a place in the Loxbridge Combined Universities team, sharing the captaincy with Caroline Harvey. RESULTS: London University 14, Oxford 6; Cambridge 6, Oxford 1.

Seventh title

Donnie McKenzie, a member of British team in Seoul, won the Tyneside open foil title yesterday by defeating Peter Kay in the last bout, 10-6. It was McKenzie's seventh Tyneside title.

Richards talks

Jack Richards's future as a Surrey cricketer will be discussed this week following claims that the county are ready to release him. According to one England wicketkeeper, Richards has already been dismissed by letter, but Ian Greig, the Surrey captain, stressed yesterday that "Jack is under contract until the end of 1989 and we will be talking to him this week."

Top of the tree

Singapore (AP) — Chris Bush, of the United States, won the Singapore Powerboat Grand Prix yesterday and claimed the Budweiser World Grand Prix crown with 48 points. Guido Capellini, of Italy, finished second and Steve Kerton, of Great Britain, third.

Even-chance of tour to New Zealand

England cricket authorities believe there is an even chance of arranging a mini-tour to New Zealand this winter.